

Appendix B:
**Public
Participation**

Events and Outreach

1. June 14, 2017: CAP Open House
2. September 12, 2017- Discussion with City's Tree Committee
3. October 16, 2017: Climate Science Day
4. October 18, 2017: Fire Forum
5. December 6, 2017: Public Works Department
6. Dec. 4, 2017: CAP City Council Work Session
7. Dec. 6, 2017: City Staff Lunchtime CAP update
8. Dec. 14, 2017: City Staff CAP workshop
9. January 9, 2018: Presentation to the City's Parks Board
10. Dec/January: Meetings with Public Works Dept. staff
11. January 9, 2018: KGEZ Radio Show, general CAP information
12. January 12, 2018: Meeting with Planning Depart. Staff
13. February 13, 2018: KGEZ Radio Show, Fire-Adapted Communities Discussion
14. February 21, 2018: Whitefish Chamber of Commerce Meeting
15. February 21, 2018: Whitefish County Water and Sewer Board
16. March 6, 2018: Whitefish Rotary Club Meeting
17. March 7, 2018: Flathead Conservation Roundtable
18. March 7, 2018: SolarEase Workshop
19. March 13, 2018: KGEZ Radio Show: Public Comment Opportunity on CAP

Montana Resilience Dialogue

[Whitefish Resilience Dialogues Synthesis Report](#)

This report captures the key outcomes from the Whitefish, Montana Resilience Dialogues process, which took place between May 15 and May 26, 2017. The Resilience Dialogues partners with communities to explore their risks from climate variability and change. Using a professionally facilitated, online process to connect community leaders to a network of vetted national experts, the Resilience Dialogues helps communities understand risks and lay the groundwork for long-term resilience.

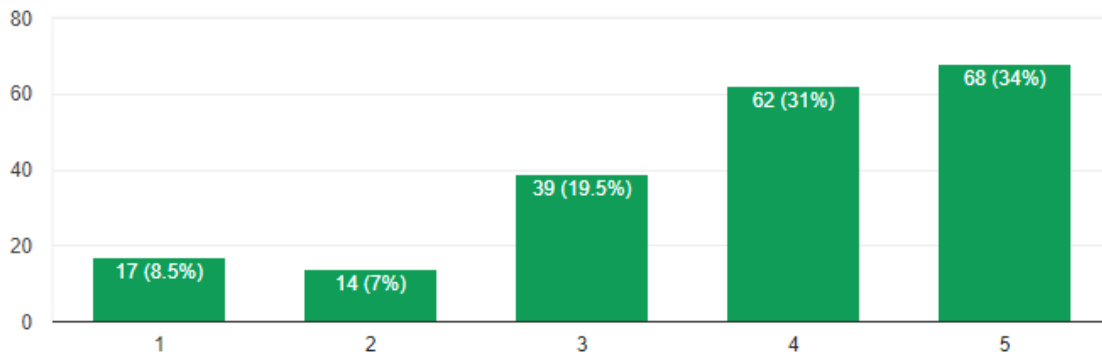
Student Participation

Including students in the Whitefish School District was central to the work of the Climate Action Plan committee. By partnering with the Whitefish High School Marketing Class, the CAP Committee was able to reach a number of students and ensure their voices were heard.

The team received 200 responses from the student body:
(1 represents strong disagreement and 5 represents strong agreement)

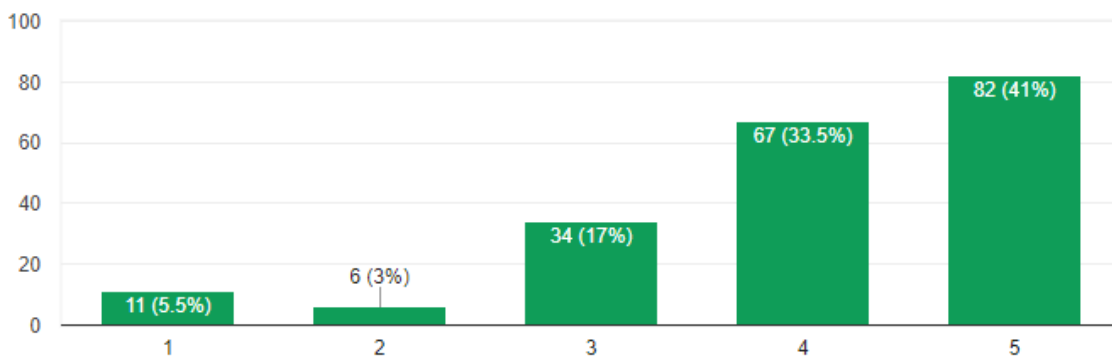
The City should be a leader in addressing climate change in the community.

200 responses



How much do you care about environmental/community sustainability?

200 responses





Whitefish Forum: Preparing for the Fire Next Time

**Whitefish City Hall Council Chambers
Wednesday, October 18th, at 6:30pm**

Main topics:

- Reducing wildfire risk in Whitefish and the Whitefish Fire Service Area
- Improving the safety of homes located in the wildland-urban interface
- Community protocol for responding to unhealthy air quality conditions.
- Steps to improve indoor air quality during poor air quality days.

Panelists:

- Travis Tveidt – City of Whitefish Fire Marshall
- Ali Ulwelling – DNRC Wildfire Prevention, Education, & Information and Coordinator of FireSafe Flathead
- Mike West – Flathead National Forest, Tally Lake District, Assistant Fire Management Officer
- Hillary Hanson – Flathead County Public Health Officer
- Amy Cilimburg – Climate Smart Missoula

**“All of Whitefish is considered part of the WUI, the Wildland-Urban Interface,”
says Whitefish Fire Chief Joe Page.**



Wednesday, March 7, 6-8 pm

**City Council Chambers, Whitefish City Hall
418 E Second St, Whitefish**



**Solar-Ease:
We aim to
make it
EASY!**

Learn all about going solar

- Hear about current opportunities, policy, and the residential solar process, from tax benefits and financing to working through a bid from an installer
- Meet-and-greet with local installers begins at 6, informational presentation at 6:30, with plenty of time for Q&A

More Info: <http://www.climatesmartglaciercountry.org/solar-ease-workshop>

Co-sponsored by:



Media

[City Looks to Reduce Carbon Footprint](#)

February 9, 2016

Whitefish Pilot

Whitefish is investigating whether it should establish a climate action plan in an attempt to reduce the city's carbon footprint. City Council studied the option last week while also considering a similar plan involving the whole North Valley.

[Climate Action Task Force Meets March 1](#)

February 24, 2016

Whitefish Pilot

A North Valley climate action task force will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, March 1 in Whitefish. Formed to develop local solutions to the challenges of a warming climate, the task force will meet at 7 p.m. at the Whitefish Community Library.

[Whitefish Forming Citizen Committee to Craft Climate Action Plan](#)

January 14, 2017

Flathead Beacon

Whitefish is joining a growing number of cities across the U.S. by establishing a climate action plan that will guide municipal strategies in the face of climate change. The city is forming a citizen advisory group known as the Climate Action Plan Committee that will study Whitefish's energy and water consumption and propose projects and recommendations that guide sustainable and clean practices.

[Whitefish seeks input on Climate Action Plan](#)

June 5, 2017

Bigfork Eagle

Open house planned for June 14. Daily Inter Lake. A committee that is drafting a climate action plan for the city of Whitefish will stage an open house at Whitefish City Hall on June 14 to share information and get public feedback.

[Climate Action Committee Welcomes Ideas at Open House](#)

June 6, 2017

Whitefish Pilot

The Whitefish Climate Action Planning Committee will discuss the development of a city climate action plan during an open house on June 14 in the City Hall lobby.

[Whitefish Will Host Open House to Develop A Climate Action Plan](#)

June 13, 2017

MTPR

The Whitefish Climate Action Planning Committee started meeting this past January to draft a set of cost-saving and energy use goals and strategies for the city, local schools and the community. They're holding an open house to answer questions and hear what local residents think is important.

[City of Whitefish Pledges To Uphold Paris Climate Agreement](#)

June 20, 2017

MTPR

The announcement comes as the city is drafting a climate action plan that will set goals and

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recommendations for improving energy efficiency and cutting costs. That plan is expected later this year.

[Communities and Experts Collaborate for Climate Resilience](#)

July 11, 2017

Earth & Space Science News

Whitefish, Mont., located just outside of Glacier National Park, depends on summer visitors to the park and winter skiers to support its economy. They are already experiencing some warmer winters that affect ski conditions, and smoke from wildfires has put a damper on outdoor activities and tourism in the summer.

[Whitefish conducting climate survey](#)

October 5, 2017

Daily Inter Lake

The city of Whitefish is drafting a climate action plan and is gathering input from Whitefish residents through a survey that's being conducted online and through postcards available at various outlets in the city.

[Whitefish studying climate change options](#)

October 11, 2017

KPAX

The mayor and city council in Whitefish recently created a ten-member committee to study climate action options for the city. What they came up with was a seven-question survey on climate change. The committee has three main goals, to reduce carbon emission, save taxpayers money and improve sustainability.

[Upcoming Western Montana Events](#)

October 17, 2017

KTVQ News

Reducing wildfire risk and public health impacts from smoke is the focus of community forum on Oct. 18 at Whitefish City Hall. The forum, sponsored by the Whitefish Fire Department and the Whitefish Climate Action Plan Committee. will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Whitefish City Hall Council Chambers.

[Wildfire preparation, smoke impacts focus of forum](#)

October 18, 2017

Bigfork Eagle

Reducing wildfire risk in Whitefish and public health impacts from smoke are the focus of a forum on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at Whitefish City Hall. The session begins at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council chambers, and is sponsored by the Whitefish Fire Department and Whitefish Climate Action Plan Committee.

[Whitefish forum focuses on wildfire prevention](#)

October 19, 2017

KPAX

The forum went over a number of things people can do to reduce damage and event prevent fires from threatening people and homes. One of the main focuses was creating a fire-adapted community, meaning a community that collectively adapts to the intense fire seasons that we are increasingly seeing.

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[Officials say time is now to prepare for fire season](#)

October 24, 2017

Whitefish Pilot

It's already time to start thinking about preparing for next year's fire season, local fire experts told community members last week during a forum at City Hall.

[City's Climate Action Plan Expected to Be Released in Spring](#)

December 19, 2017

Whitefish Pilot

The city committee charged with creating the plan expects to have a draft plan ready for community review in January or February and then submit the final plan to City Council for approval in March. The city's climate action plan is expected to outline the ways the community can conserve energy, reduce costs and prepare for future climate goals.

[City Set to Switch Light Bulbs to LED](#)

March 1, 2018

Whitefish Pilot

Whitefish is looking to convert its street lights to LED bulbs. Once all are the bulbs in the city are replaced, it's a move that could save the city upwards of \$283,000 over 10 years.

[Whitefish releases Climate Action Plan to transition into clean energy economy](#)

March 6, 2018

NBC Montana

[Public Review Begins of Climate Action Plan](#)

March 6, 2018

Whitefish Pilot

Whitefish's draft Climate Action Plan is now available for public review and comment through Monday, March 19.

[Whitefish Releases Climate Action Plan](#)

March 8, 2018

MTPR

[Saving Winter](#)

March 20, 2018

Flathead Beacon

Whitefish Climate Action Plan dovetails with screening of 'Saving Snow,' a documentary about the economic impact of warming winters

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June 14, 2017: Climate Action Plan Open House Public Comment and Input

Transportation:

- Make bike racks more convenient than parking spaces
- Reroute HW 93 outside of downtown WF
- Bike rental/share
- City bike rack
- Rent-a-bike stations all over town
- No idling signs/rules
- Ev and e bike charging stations
- Rail link/trolley adjacent to main line
 - o Between whitefish, c falls, maybe Kalispell and evergreen
- Rail link to glacier
- Rail link
- Work toward more public transit valley-wide
- Bikes!! Bike pedicabs and bike surrys only
- Get 3 trollies that are free (and cute) and year-round to run all through major sites
- Enforce the removal of snow from the sidewalk in the winter! Enforce the law!
- Snow removal from sidewalk
- Bike/ped ONLY in downtown
- Walking bike only in downtown
- City bus or shuttle between popular destinations
- E charging stations in city parking lots
- Need a plug-in station for electric cars
- Solar roadways.com “solar freaking roadways”

Local Food:

- More support for community grow plots
- Reserve public land for local seed trials
- Employ gardeners to intensify garden plots in each block of downtown
- Community composting
- No food waste
- Community gardens
- School gardens
- Composting
- Community compost center
- Encourage neighborhood garden spots and funding for deer-proof fencing
- Hydro/aeroponic greenhouses throughout city

Water Conservation and Wastewater Treatment

- Rainwater storage
- Water re-use at WWTP
- Mandate that all single family homes are compliant with water quality standards
- Street tree nursery at WWTP

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- 2 meters at 1 house- 1 in and 1 out! Encourage less out
- Purchase rain barrels and help residents set up rain gardens (like Seattle)
- Mandate that all new development and remodels show compliance with all state, fed, city laws
 - o E.g. water protection before permit is issued
- Measure waste outflows and set goals for reduction
- Cheaper irrigation rates for gardeners
- Encourage drip irrigation system
 - o Rebate on water bill?
- Pick excellent water protection designs and highlight in newspaper
- Encourage grey water for irrigation
- More xeric landscaping in our parks
- Divert street water into landscapes
- Refuse bill incentive for lower volumes in container
- Use gravity- water moving to lower elevations to generate electricity for the City

Buildings and Lighting

- Have a campaign where we remind people at 10 pm tp turn off all unnecessary lights when siren goes off
- Tesla solar roofs- grant?
- LEED certified public buildings
- Grants to upgrade old windows and insulation
- Energy dashboards in public buildings
- Solar! Solar! Solar!
- LED streetlights
- Support national advocacy
- Turn off lights at businesses and use the sensor lights for security
- Solar farm @ WWTP
- Low light on streets
 - o LEDs?
 - o Generally less needed
- Energy efficient design for new houses
- Promote less light pollution with less energy use and light use
- Solar incentives
- Install solar PV systems on city of WF public buildings

Recycling (not requested):

- Glass recycling
- No more water bottles or plastic bags in town
- Discourage use of plastic bags
- Glass recycling... please!
- Livingston does [glass recycling], and we have more capability
- Outlaw plastic water bottles in City projects and events
- Curbside recycling
- City-wide curbside recycling
- Curbside recycling
- Curbside recycling

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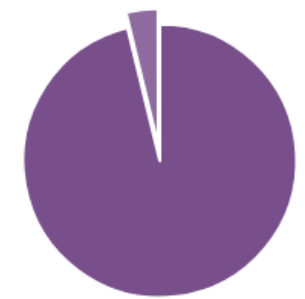
- Glass recycling
- Recycling!
- Eliminate plastic bags (shopping)
- Curbside recycling

CAP Survey Results

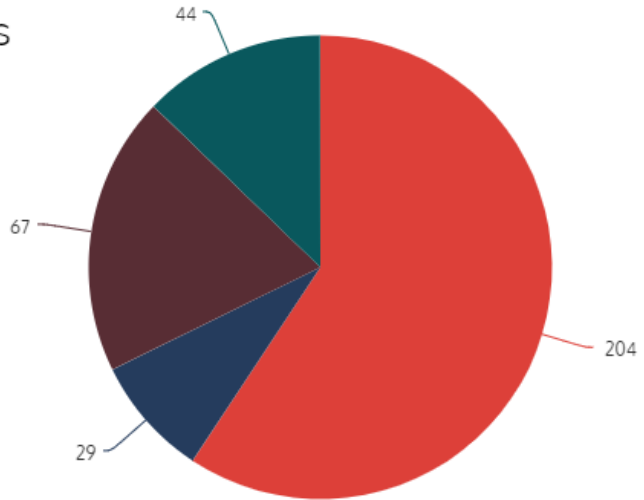
CAP Survey Results

Respondent Demographics

The majority of the 344 respondents were younger than 24 and reside in the Whitefish community

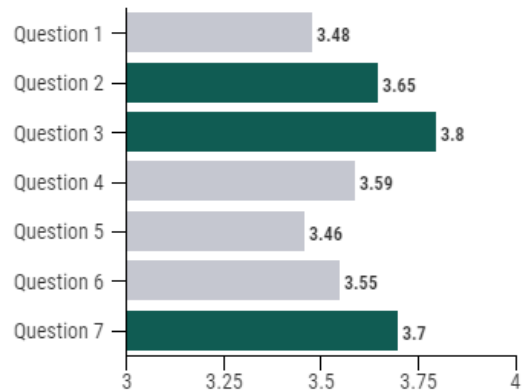


Whitefish Non-Resident



24 or Younger 25-44 45-64 65 or Older

1. The City should prioritize greenhouse gas reductions.
2. The City should choose strategies based on their financial feasibility and subsequent saving.
3. The City should coordinate and partner with the Whitefish School District, local businesses, and other organizations.
4. The City should incorporate climate strategies into other citywide plans and initiatives where appropriate.
5. The City should increase its climate-related public outreach and engagement efforts.
6. The City should be a leader in addressing climate change in the community.
7. The City should strive to prepare for projected change and build resilience.



Average Response per Question

Survey responses varied from 1 - Disagree with Principle to 5 - Top Priority

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CAP Survey Comments

- Discourage tourist vehicular traffic in the city limits to reduce the production of greenhouse gases
- Educate contractors on energy saving construction
- Integrate Solar Power Reduce landfill Educate the community
- Don K needs to turn all lights off at night. Xmas lights on businesses need to be off during daylight hours. Educate on idling cars at school. Give reward/benefit for parking cars and walking/biking, and/or make car travel difficult in certain areas to discourage driving and encourage walking/biking. Streets by Muldown must accommodate bike lanes all the way down as right now the cars drive on them.
- 1. Make downtown "bike/ped only" for 1 day per week. 2. Don't act like it's a huge sacrifice to implement GHG reduction strategies. No other City plan needs to have payoff or saving to be implemented; why should sustainability measures?
- employ no fumes regulations directing people to turn of engines while waiting for pick ups, construction delays etc
- Continue extending the bike lanes as far out of city limits as possible so more people can safely bike to town
- The city should be a no idle zone
- I think that the city should investigate the suitability of purchasing land surrounding the plant for the possibility of wastewater treatment. The report specifically states that crops such as trees, irrigated and used to treat wastewater is very efficient.
- I think you all should get brains and worry about real city issues and quit being a bunch of liberal f*** tards
- No, I think the City should focus on our local issues and leave the climate change items to the county, state and federal level
- Environmentalists need to also evolve. Evolve past "stop that". Take a longer approach to help move families that are involved in industries you may not like into something else. If you make a family choose between a cause you want or put food on their families plate you will loose every time or at a minimum fight an unnecessary uphill fight. Work to help the free market lead rather than creating just bigger government. Jason Clay of the World Wildlife Fund has a great Ted Talk about bringing different groups together.
- If the City deems it necessary to address climate change then they (employees and departments) need to demonstrate how to do that before even thinking of involving other groups or businesses. The City needs to show that it is possible to lower their emissions and make positive changes first. For instance - stop driving city vehicles everywhere, walk or use old bicycles (not new because then you will be increasing green house emissions and carbon footprint). Stop using motorized equipment, turn lights off. 'Walk the Talk'
- Accept climate change
- Give up on this bs
- Free market principles and facts
- I believe this is a waste of resources at the city level to be discussing and implementing changes based on climate change.

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- This is Govt over reach at it's worst. Whatever Whitefish city govt does, it will not have any impact on "climate change". Whitefish city govt members Spending taxpayer money on their own personal agendas is beyond disgusting. You push this and you will be removed.
- First prove there is no such a thing as climate change. There is no science to support it. And when did Whitefish become such a jackass community? This sounds like it could have come from San Francisco, California not Montana. I guess I will have to move even further from Whitefish than I am. What happened to common sense and actual thought rather than liberal reactivism? So far there is nothing in Whitefish that is contributing to climate change, unless you look at the terrible forest management.
- Im actually more concerned about the long term affects of the solution we spray on the roads in the winter. How will this affect water supply and fish over long periods?
- Stop adding more costs to our town. You continue to spend spend spend and making it unaffordable. Do you care about that?
- Solar farm
- Community solar project. Rethink our lawn boulevards
- All effort should be subjected to a cost \ benefit analysis prior to implementation.
- I think you need to find something else to do. This is a waste of time and money, and an excuse to exercise control over others illegitimately. Protecting private property is your number one legitimate function, and this is directly opposed to that. I strongly object to this monumental waste, and effort to extend local government petty tyranny over the lives of residents. Do something else. Something worthwhile. Something legitimate.
- Alternative energy development
- build energy efficiency into all buildings, not just pretty buildings
- Infill -- Building up density in town and thereby creating less need for cars as folks drive in from outlying areas. Change zoning and fee structure to encourage this. Alternative power -- lead the way in helping city residents add ground source heat pumps, solar, wind power, sell power back to grid!!, etc. Work to help transportation group of Climate Action on electric buses, limit diesel locomotives, add gondola from town to ski hill Work to restrict car access to downtown especially in summer and winter months. Work on bypass for trucks.
- Climate change is "false" science
- Human carbon dioxide does not cause climate change. Get over it.
- Continue with making WF a walkable and bikeable community.
- I would like to see the City of Whitefish invest in vehicles and machinery that use alternative energy sources and similar items that will set a good example for the community.
- Attention to safe biking routes and increased awareness for kids biking to school and back.
- Don't spend Whitefish tax payer money on anything except to purchase energy efficient products. The rest is a terrible waste of money driven by Steve Thompson and supported by city council members that are way too liberal in the way they prioritize and spend tax payer money. I'm totally against this. At least you asked for opinions this time before you forced it down City of Whitefish residents throats without any real vote or input.
- Decrease light pollution, increase use of solar, geothermal and wind for heating & cooling wherever applicable. Perhaps increase outreach educational opportunities on such topics?
- I would love to see a city wide enactment of an idle-free Whitefish.
- Yes, the city should step up its efforts to make emergency plans to protest against forest fires. This might include a safety belt cleared of brush and small trees around the town perimeter.

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- The treatment plant should be self sustainable and of the best climate change practices.
- Net zero energy buildings IF performed wisely. Cost analysis of energy efficiency upgrade opportunities and maximizes savings through "non-technological" options like insulation and air sealing before upgrading tech solutions like heat pumps. All get prioritized for cost effective life time energy savings before sizing renewable energy. Basically don't spend \$10 to produce energy when \$5 extra in insulation (for example) would have netted the same end result.
- Utilization of the renewable hydropower we have access to reduce emissions associated with cars- go EV.
- Building regulations for FireWise and WUI standards
- Better control of our water
- Ban plastic bags
- Recycle glass
- Native and edible plants in landscaping
- Civil discourse on the topic
- I think the city needs to quit taking from my wallet, and let me live on my own money peacefully. gosh how whitefish is a wasteful spender.
- This is NOT a "local" issue, especially in a Northern mountain climate. City hall's job is tough enough without layering on this silliness!
- The climate is always changing the idea that man can control or affect it is based on falsified data - there is no consensus in scientific theories
- Increase recycling-to include glass (with a glass crusher we can pave paths and roads)
- Encourage round-trip planning to avoid repeating trips to town
- Increase (hopefully fuel efficient) bus routes particularly for seniors
- Maybe do a series on climate change for deniers who encourage fossil fuel development like Zinke.
- Sponsor community recycling for items that local companies don't take.
- Continue an emphasis on making our community walker and biker friendly. Complete trail sections so that all local kids in the city limits can safely bike to school.
- Sponsor community gardens in convenient locations throughout the community.
- Find partners to offer financial incentives to encourage new buildings to adopt more efficient, lower- emission heating and cooling systems.
- Revise architectural standards to encourage green infrastructure in new residential buildings.
- Build more parks.
- Plant even more trees and shrubs on boulevards.
- Reduce tourism, cars bring greenhouse gasses.
- Ban plastic bags, ban plastic that can't be recycled (#5, 6,...containers)
- Build a recycling facility with the Flathead County: create jobs, educate people about Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- In the wake of Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the quake in Mexico, it seems important to encourage decentralized sustainable housing like Earthships by Architect Michael Reynolds are a good example of a home design that would likely perform well in a natural disaster crisis. As the amount of natural disasters increases government will be increasingly overwhelmed and unable to respond in a meaningful way, see Puerto Rico. Individuals and small local communities need to be thinking towards disaster survival.

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- Bike shares where bikes are left around town for free use. Also, tuk-tuk style system for tourist transport at zero emissions. Snow-bus conversion to higher efficiency fuel (propane), electric, or vegetable oil. (Plenty of food being eaten in WF) Mandate and/or fund/provide emissions control devices for wood-burning stoves. I believe these are a main source of pollution in the valley. Head to the top of Big Mtn. in the fall or winter and see the pollution.
- Set up a philanthropic carbon offset program funded by visitors to Glacier who are concerned about climate change or are visiting because they want to see the glaciers before they melt. The fund could be used for local emissions-reduction and energy efficiency programs in Whitefish and the Glacier park area.
- The City of Whitefish should begin a mandatory curbside recycling program to reduce the volume of waste disposed in the county landfill.

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Photos

