

# Austin Community Climate Plan

ZWAC | February 11, 2015



CITY OF AUSTIN  TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT



# Agenda

1. Why Develop a Community Climate Plan?
2. Our Approach and the Plan Development Process
3. Climate Plan Summary and Materials Management Strategies
4. Next Steps

# Why Develop a Community Climate Plan?

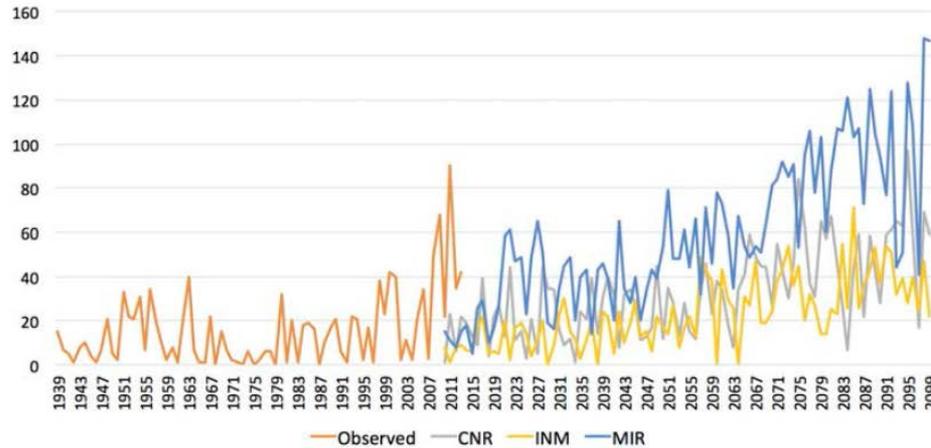


Figure 7. The number of days per year with temperatures above 100°F at the Camp Mabry weather station in Austin, TX.

Source: Geos Institute

## THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT



# Why Develop a Community Climate Plan?

## Council Resolutions

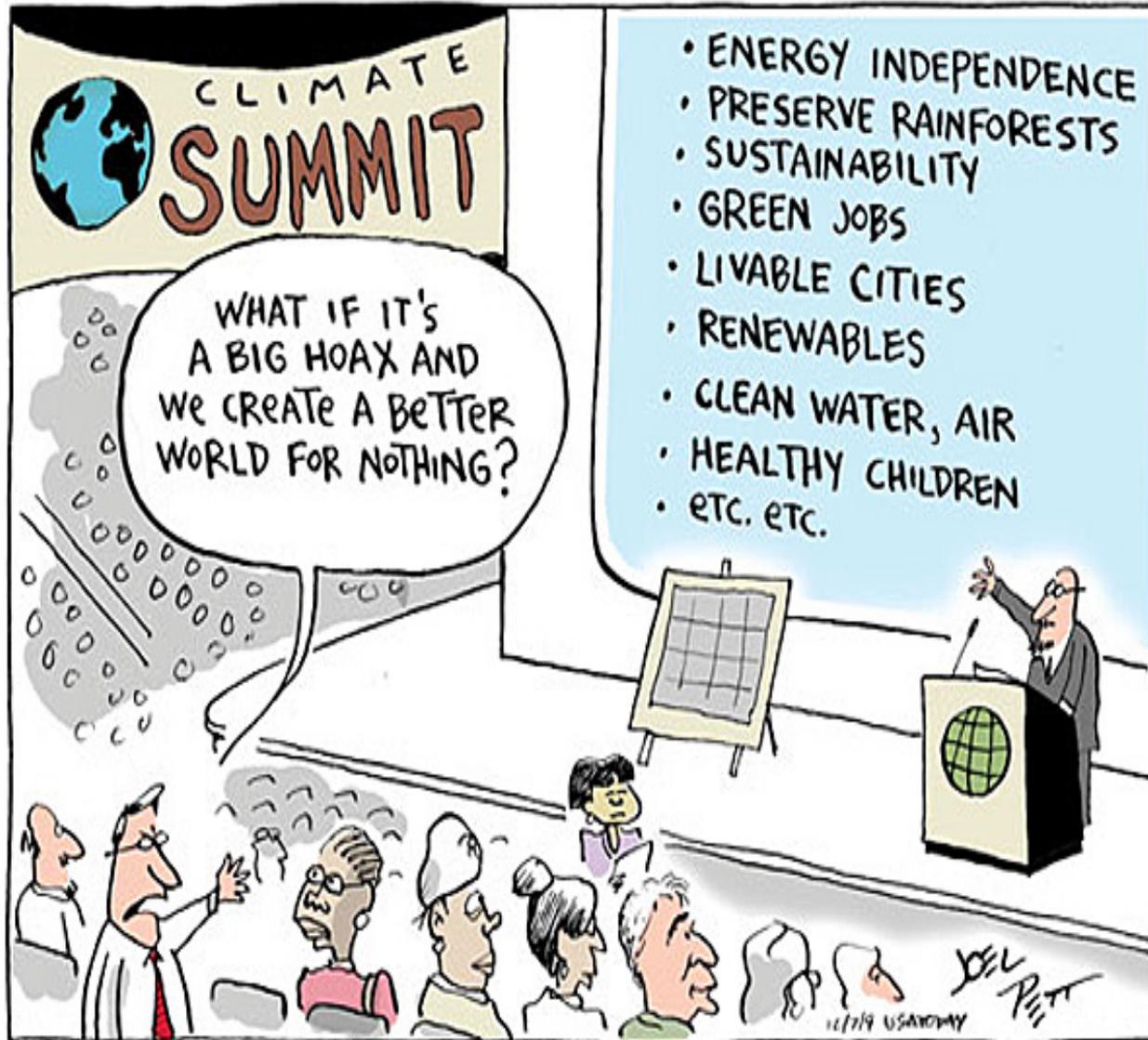
The 2007 Climate Protection Plan included five key goals:

1. Municipal operations
2. Utility generation mix
3. Homes and buildings
- 4. Community planning**
5. Carbon Neutral Programs and Assistance

On April 10, 2014, Austin City Council passed Resolution 20140410-024 that established a new long-term goal of reaching net zero community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, or earlier if feasible.



# Why Develop a Community Climate Plan?



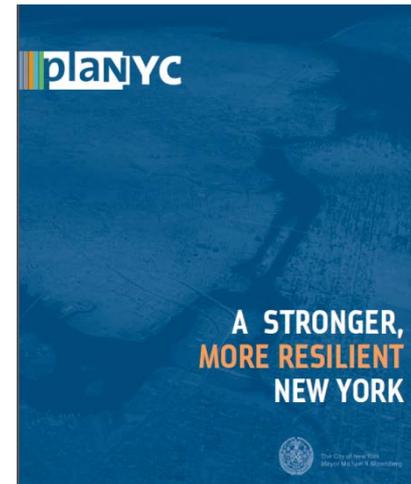
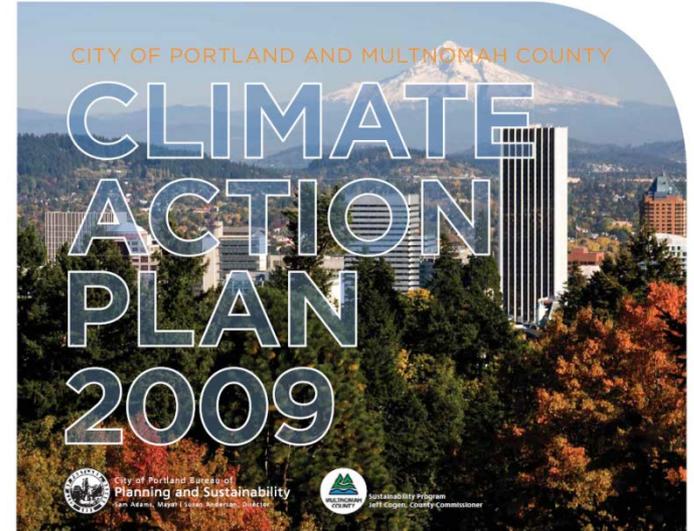
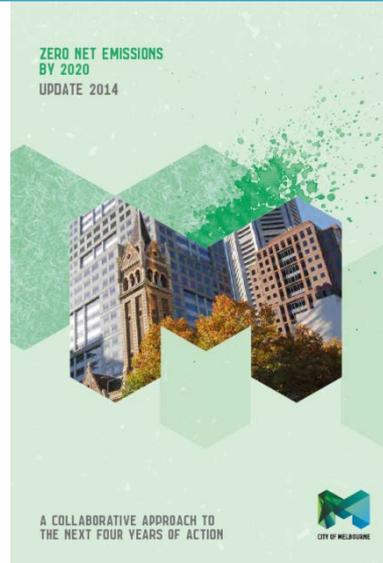
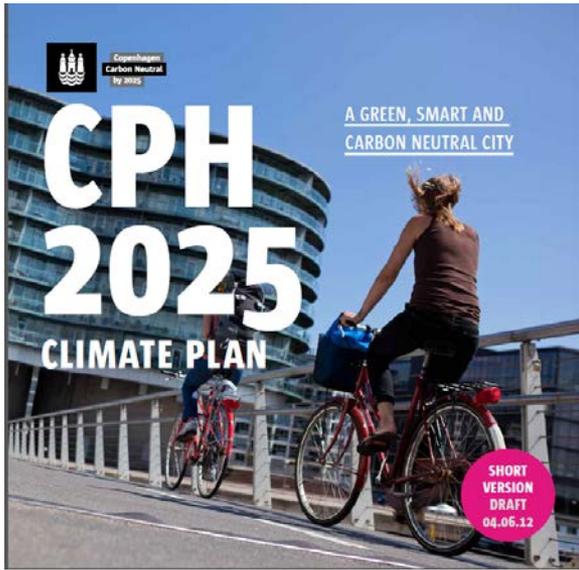
Source: Joel Pett, USA Today, December 2009.



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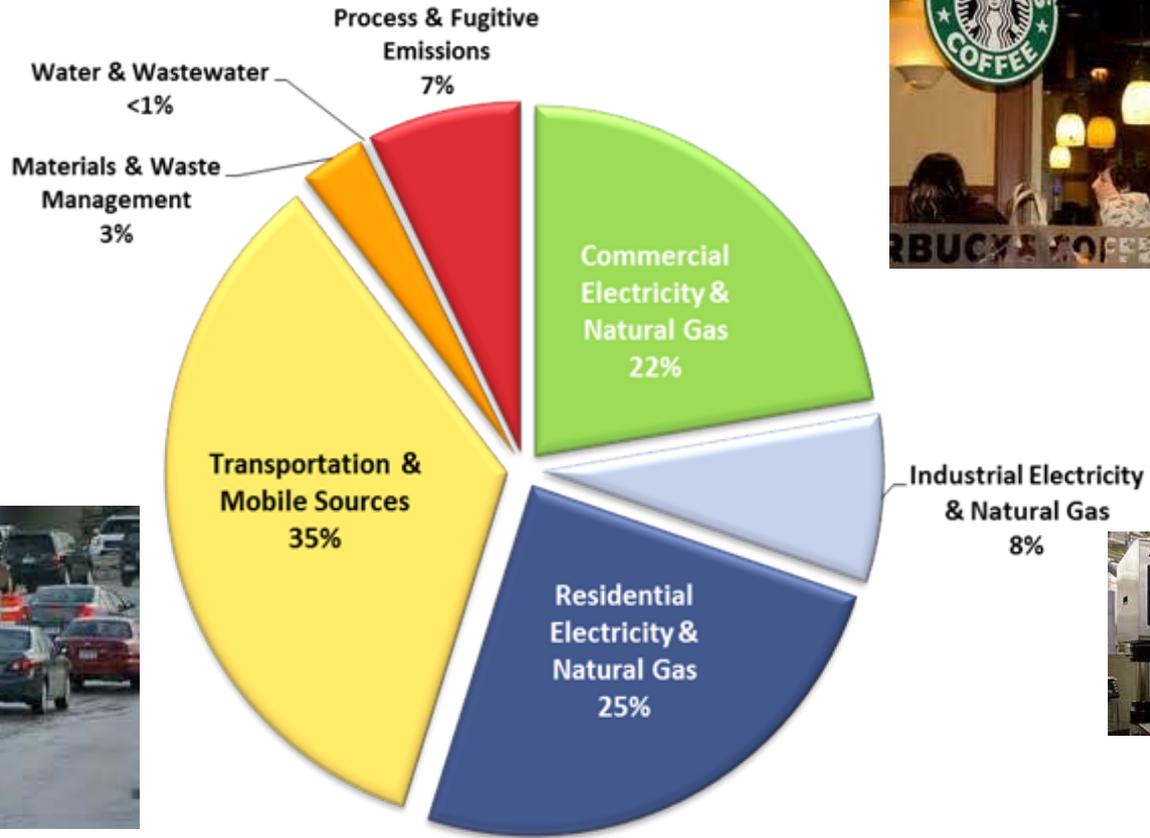
# Our Approach



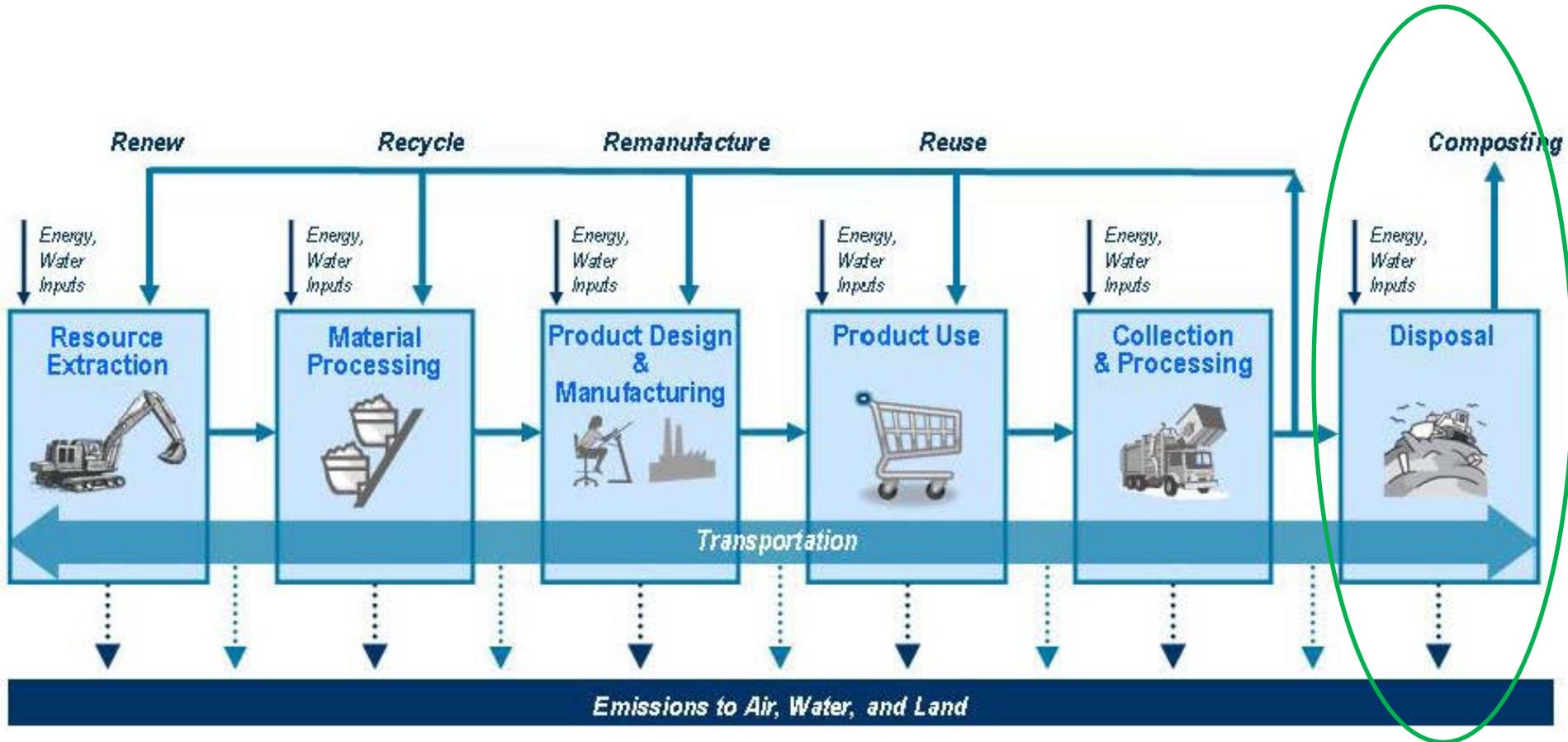
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# Our Approach

## 2010 Travis County GHG Emissions 14 Million Metric Tons CO<sub>2</sub>e

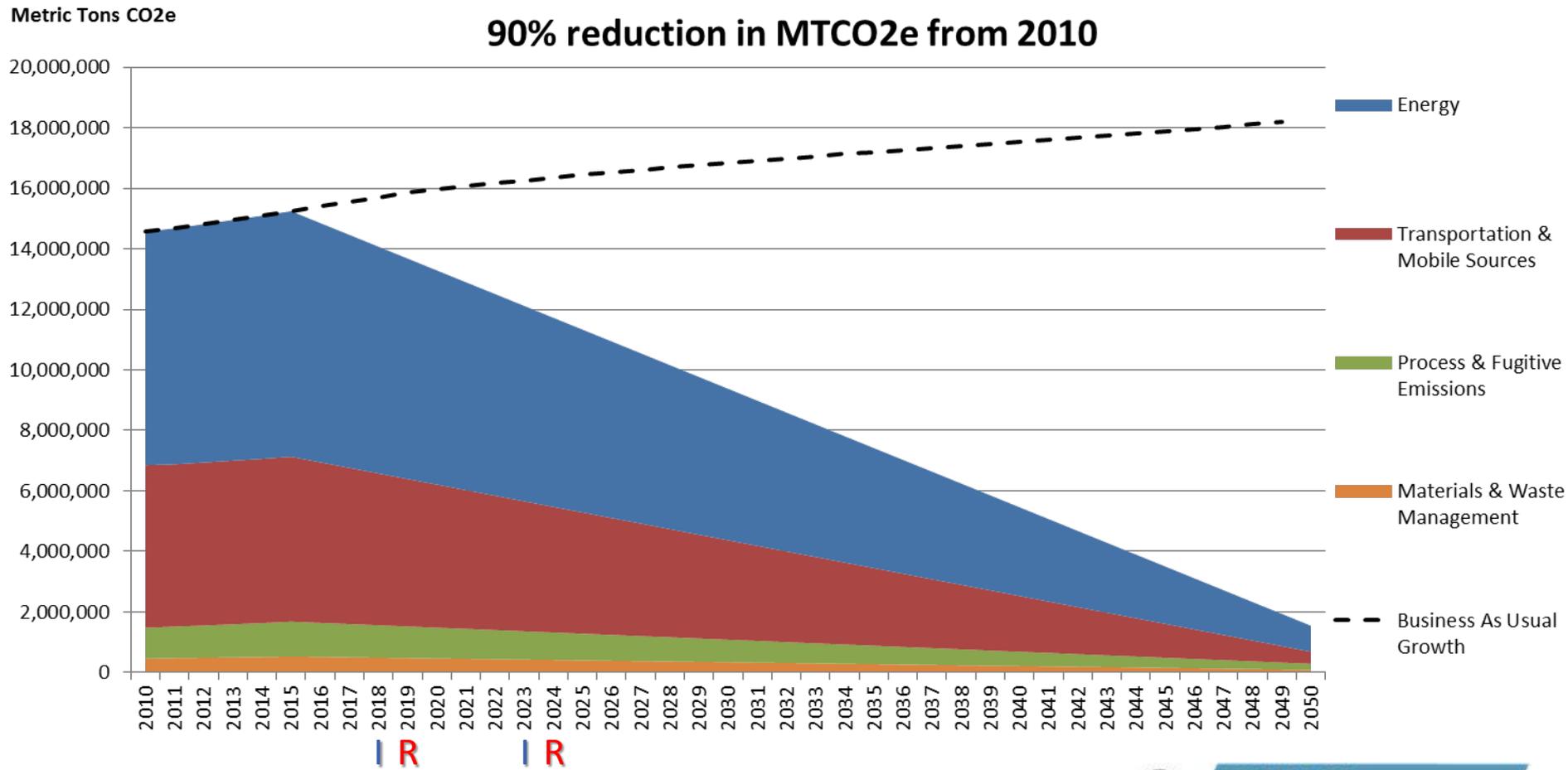


# Our Approach



# Our Approach

## What does net-zero in 2050 mean?



# Our Approach



College Students



Central City  
Individuals and Families



Suburban  
Individuals and Families



Retired Individuals and Couples



Small Businesses / Nonprofits



Large Companies / Employers



Tourists and Visitors

# Our Approach



Reduced energy costs



Improved energy security and reliability



Decreased risk of energy shortages or outages



Diminished water consumption by power plants



Reduced pollution



Improved air quality



Improved public health



Thriving local economy and increased consumer spending



Expanded local jobs creation



Enhanced transit system



Reduced traffic congestion



Safer streets



Improved disaster preparedness



Protected and enhanced ecosystems



Greater affordability for all

# Plan Development Process

## Steering Committee

Name	Organization
Roger Duncan	Energy Institute, University of Texas
Mike Blackhurst	UT School of Engineering Professor
Joep Meijer	Climate Buddies
Al Armendariz	Sierra Club Senior Campaign Representative
David Cortez	Austin Interfaith Network
Kaiba White	Public Citizen
Pam Reed	Texas Climate & Carbon Exchange
<b>Mary Dodd</b>	Community Advancement Network, Executive Director
Mitch Jacobsen	ATI Clean Energy Incubator, Co-Director
Francois Levy	American Institute of Architects
Tim Mohin	AMD Director of Corporate Responsibility
Jere Locke	Texas Drought Project
Kevin Tuerff	EnviroMedia, President
Todd Hemingson	Capital Metro VP of Strategic Planning & Development
Jim Marston	EDF, VP of Energy
Tamala Barksdale	Enviromedia and AISD board member
Jeremy Martin	Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, Senior VP Government Relations

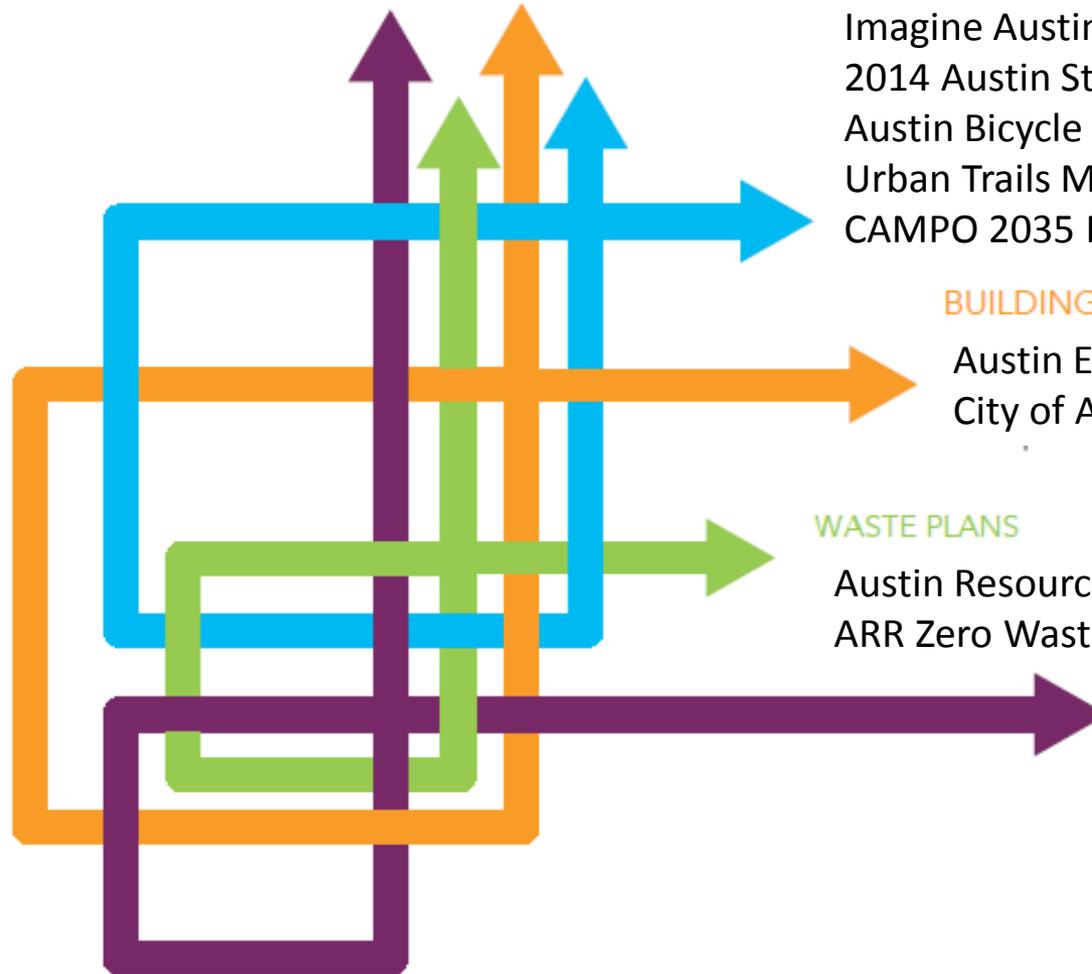
## Materials Management TAG

Kevin Tuerff	Enviromedia – Steering Committee Liaison
Brandi Clark Burton	Austin EcoNetwork – Steering Committee Liaison
Shaun Auckland	Travis County
Andrew Dobbs	Texas Campaign for the Environment
Ashley Faseler	Waste Management
Adam Gregory	Texas Disposal Systems, Inc.
Ryan Hobbs	Texas Disposal Systems, Inc.
David Hogan	Austin Zero Waste Alliance
City Staff	Woody Raine, Tony Davee, Richard Avila, Sarah Puffer, Gena McKinley, David Greene (AWU), Marc Coudert (OoS), Lewis Leff (OoS), Zach Baumer (OoS)



# Plan Development Process

## Austin Community Climate Plan



### TRANSPORTATION & LAND USE PLANS

Imagine Austin  
2014 Austin Strategic Mobility Plan  
Austin Bicycle Master Plan  
Urban Trails Master Plan  
CAMPO 2035 Regional Transportation Plan

### BUILDING ENERGY PLANS

Austin Energy Generation Plan  
City of Austin Building Codes

### WASTE PLANS

Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan  
ARR Zero Waste Plan

### PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE-RELATED PLANS

City of Austin Hazard Mitigation Plan  
Watershed Protection Ordinance  
Office of Sustainability Climate  
Resilience Efforts



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Source:  
Adapted from Seattle's Climate Action Plan

# Plan Development Process

## **Electricity and Natural Gas**

Behavior Change and Education  
Resource Technologies  
Buildings and Integrated  
Efficiency  
Utility Business Model

## **Transportation**

Infrastructure and Service  
Land Use  
Demand Management  
Policy and Planning  
Vehicles and Fuel Efficiency  
Economic and Pricing Systems

## **Industrial Process**

Fuel Switching  
Process Optimization  
Capture and Destruction  
Local Offsets



## **Materials Management**

Organics Diversion

Purchasing

Methane Management

Recycling

Reduction Reuse

## Qualitative analysis of proposed actions

### 17 actions in Phase 1

- New action or currently in an adopted city plan
- Fewer barriers or limiting factors in the way
- Large potential to avoid emissions
- Additional benefits identified
- **Will be considered for implementation upon plan adoption or part of the implementation planning effort over the next year**

### 41 actions in Phase 2

- Mostly actions in 2020-2050 timeframe
- Have current barriers related to policy, funding, technology



## Organics Diversion

1. ARR maximizes effectiveness of Universal Recycling Ordinance in diverting organic materials.
2. ARR expands collection of food residuals and other compostable, non-recyclable materials to all residential customers.
3. Austin Water's Hornsby Bend compost operation transitions from yard trimmings to other carbon sources and bulking agents, such as clean lumber and tree trimmings from other City departments and their contractors.
4. Private haulers collect all organics, non-recyclable materials from customers. **(New)**
5. Urban agricultural operations, from community gardens to regional farmers, produce and use compost from local sources. **(New)**



## Methane Management

1. ARR refines landfill gas capture and combustion system to destroy methane. Area landfill operators refine landfill gas capture and combustion system to destroy methane at their landfills.
2. With City encouragement, eligible landfills in Travis County participate in EPA landfill methane outreach voluntary programs. **(New)**

## Recycling

1. ARR expands materials accepted by curbside recycling service, increasing to weekly collection.
2. ARR increases convenience and efficiency of downtown trash and recycling alley collection service.
3. City adopts Pay-As-You-Throw rate structure to strengthen financial incentives to reduce disposal.
4. ARR maximizes effectiveness of Universal Recycling Ordinance in diverting recyclable materials.



# Materials Management TAG: Strategies & Actions

## Reduction / Reuse

1. ARR adds four new Reuse Centers, including for hard-to-recycle items.
2. City supports local economic development through the (re)Manufacturing Hub, Austin Materials Marketplace, and reuse enterprises for repairing goods/products.
3. City supports local economic development through the (re)Manufacturing Hub, Austin Materials Marketplace, and reuse enterprises for reuse of production byproducts or general reuse of goods.
4. City implements policies to reduce the use of single-use products in addition to carryout bags.

## Purchasing

1. City refines construction and building specifications to increase use of reclaimed materials.
2. City (and Travis County?) adopts specifications for materials reuse, reduced packaging, materials with recycled content, and locally manufactured products and encourages other agencies to follow suit. **(New)**



# Climate Plan Next Steps

## 1. Pending Council Adoption:

- Commit to moving forward with a short list (1-3) of the new Phase 1 actions from each TAG
- Develop an implementation plan for the remainder of new Phase 1 actions within one year of adoption (prioritization and budget requirements)

## 2. Determine feasibility of a sustainability impact statement for major city council decisions (CIP and major expenditures)

## 3. Continue climate resilience planning efforts

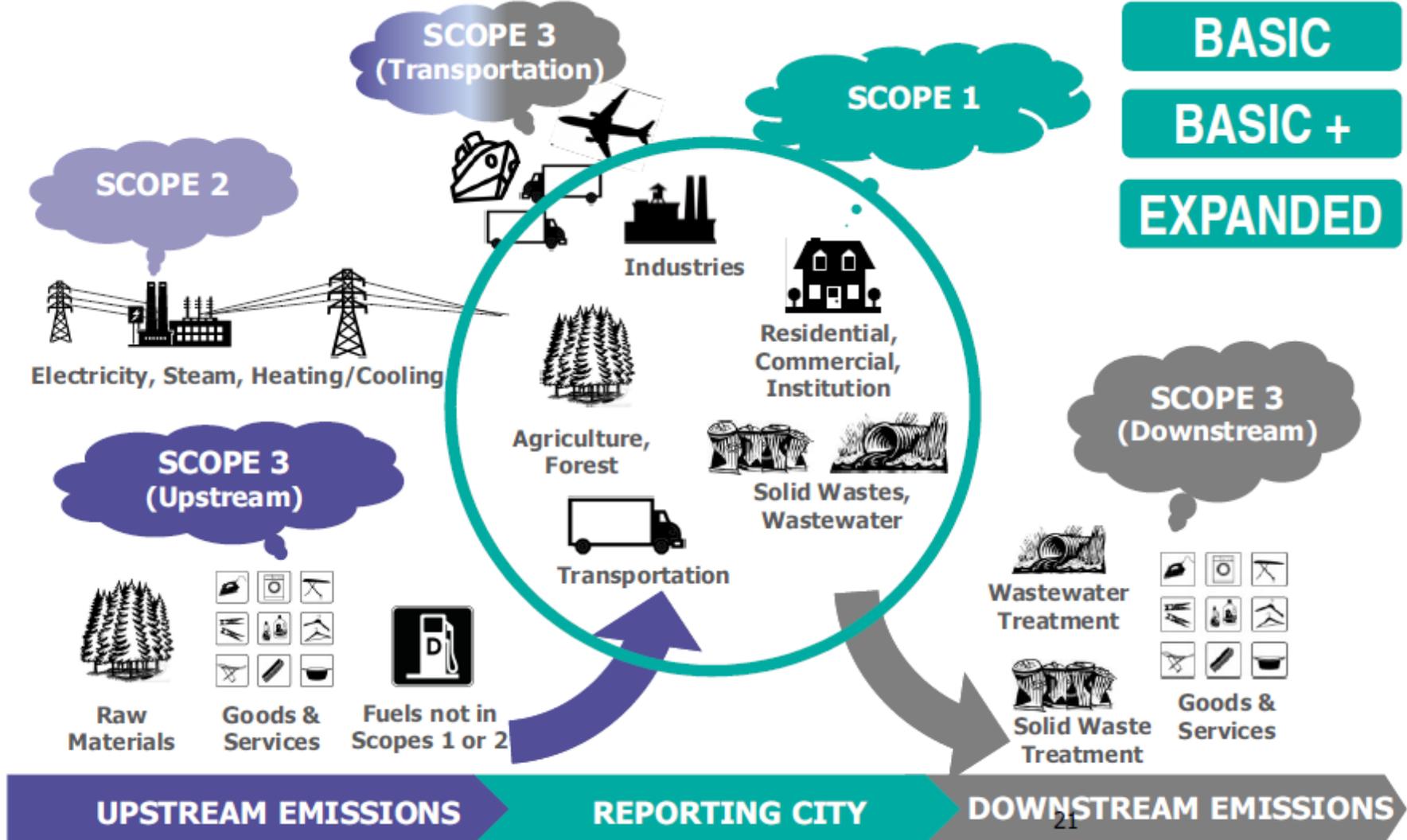
# Process Next Steps

- Present to other organizations and B&Cs
- Finalize plan document with feedback
- Present to Council in March

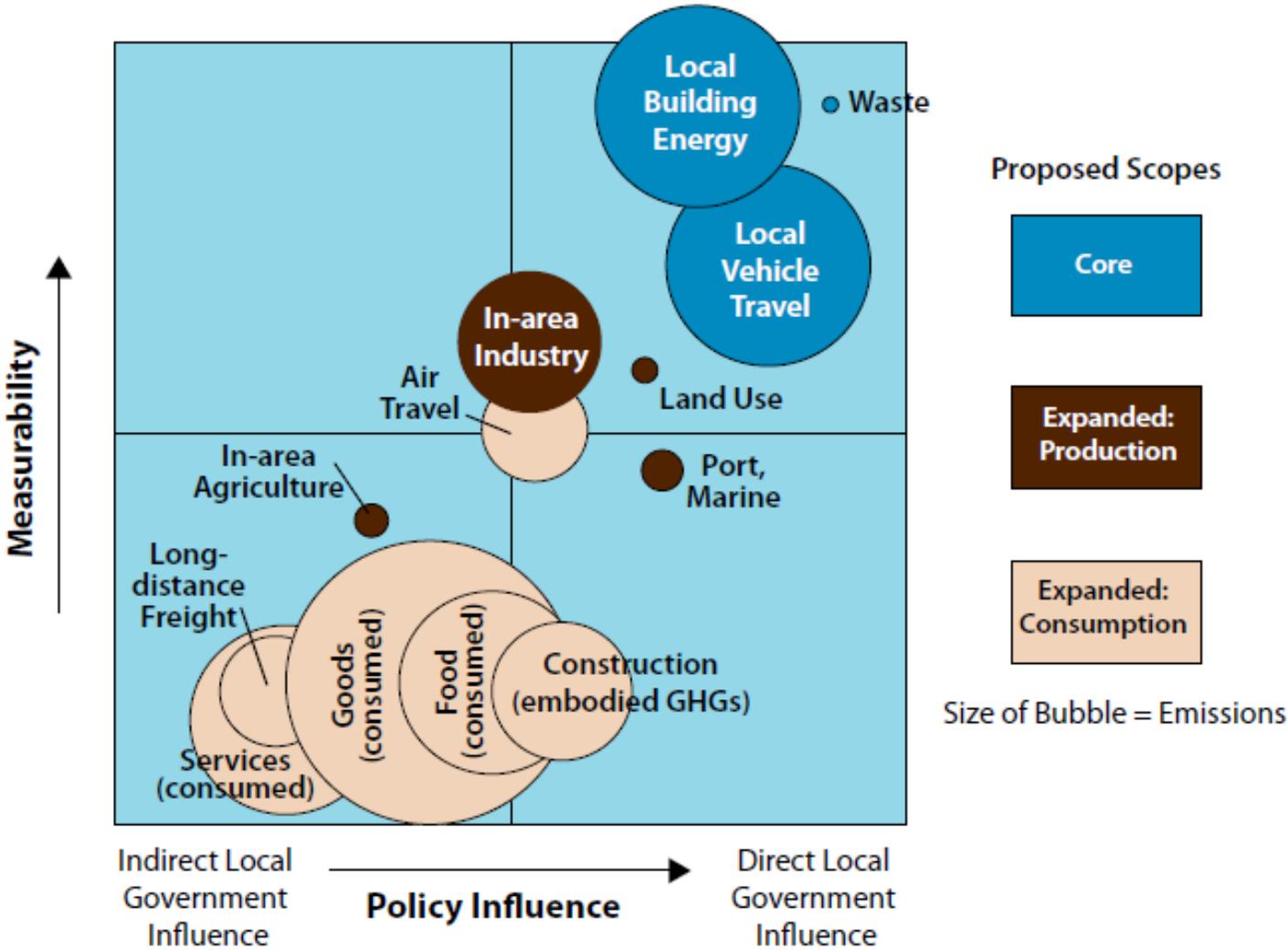
**Thoughts, comments, questions?**

# Additional Slides

# Illustration of Reporting Framework



# GHG measurability vs Local Government Policy influence



Source: King County, WA