

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?

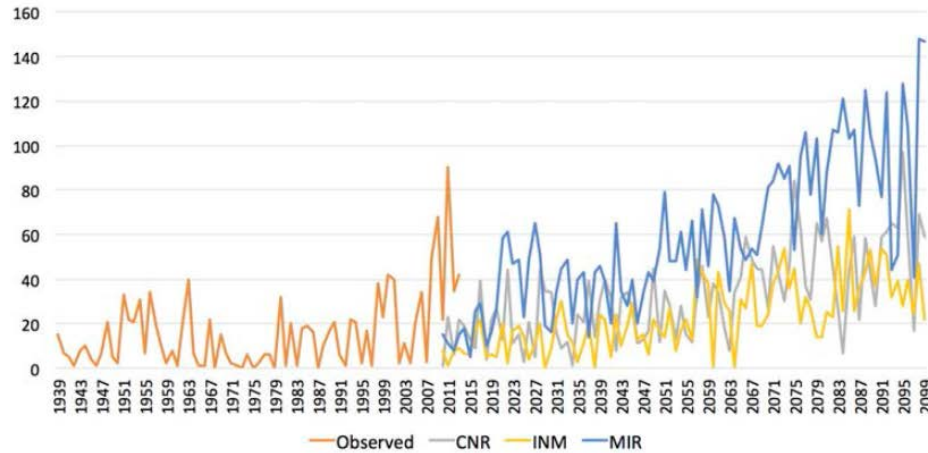


Figure 7. The number of days per year with temperatures above 100°F at the Camp Mabry weather station in Austin, TX.

Source: Geos Institute

THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT



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Why Develop a Community Climate Plan?

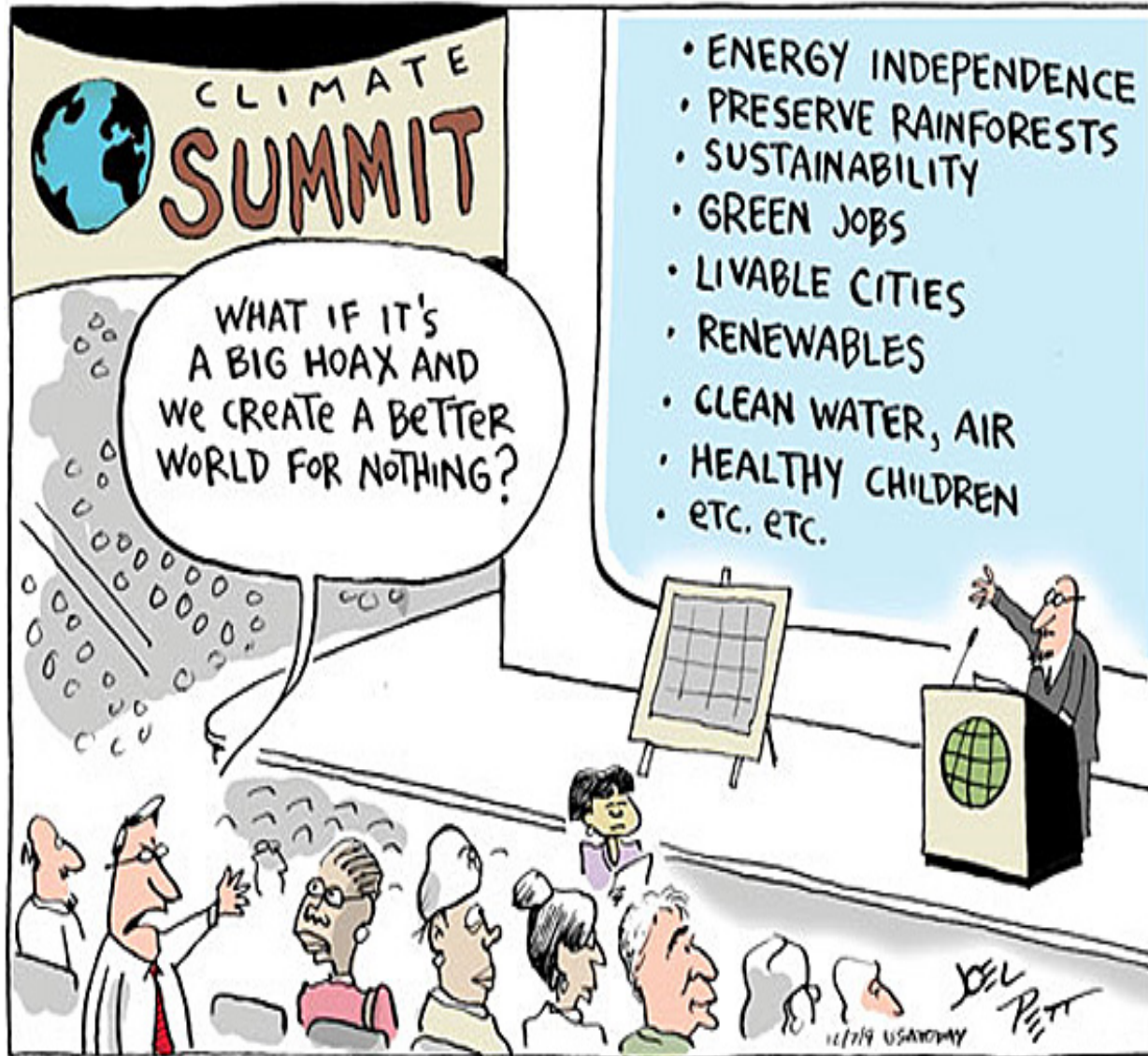
Council Resolutions

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?



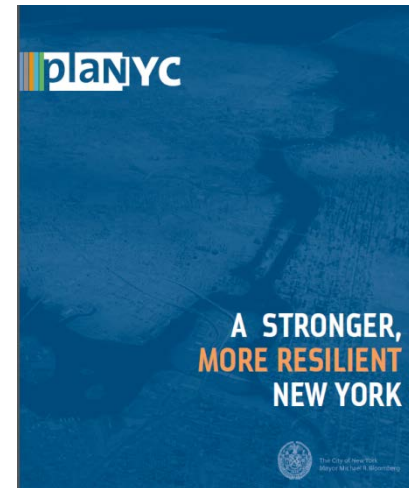
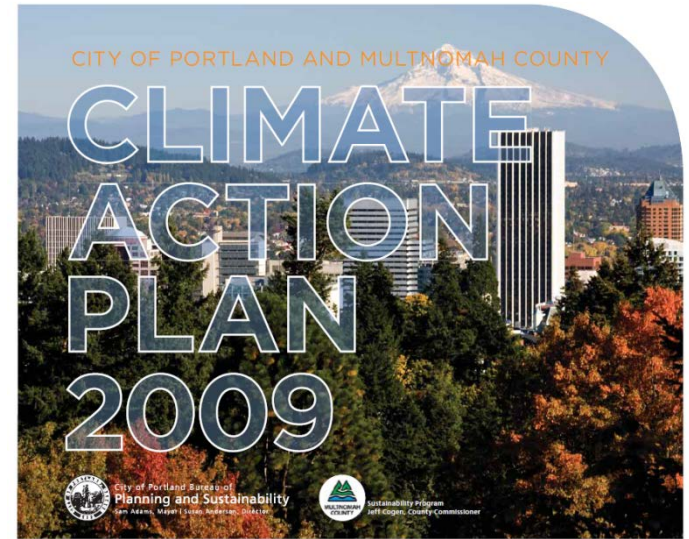
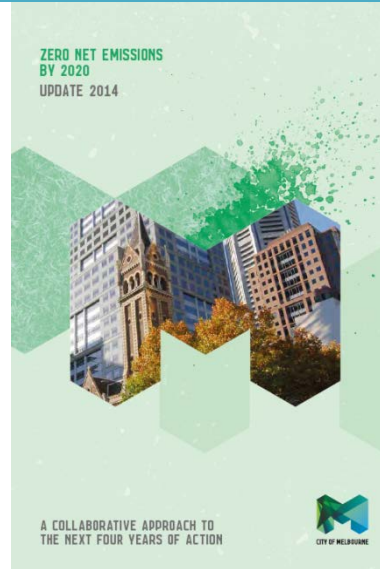
Source: Joel Pett, USA Today, December 2009.



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Our Approach

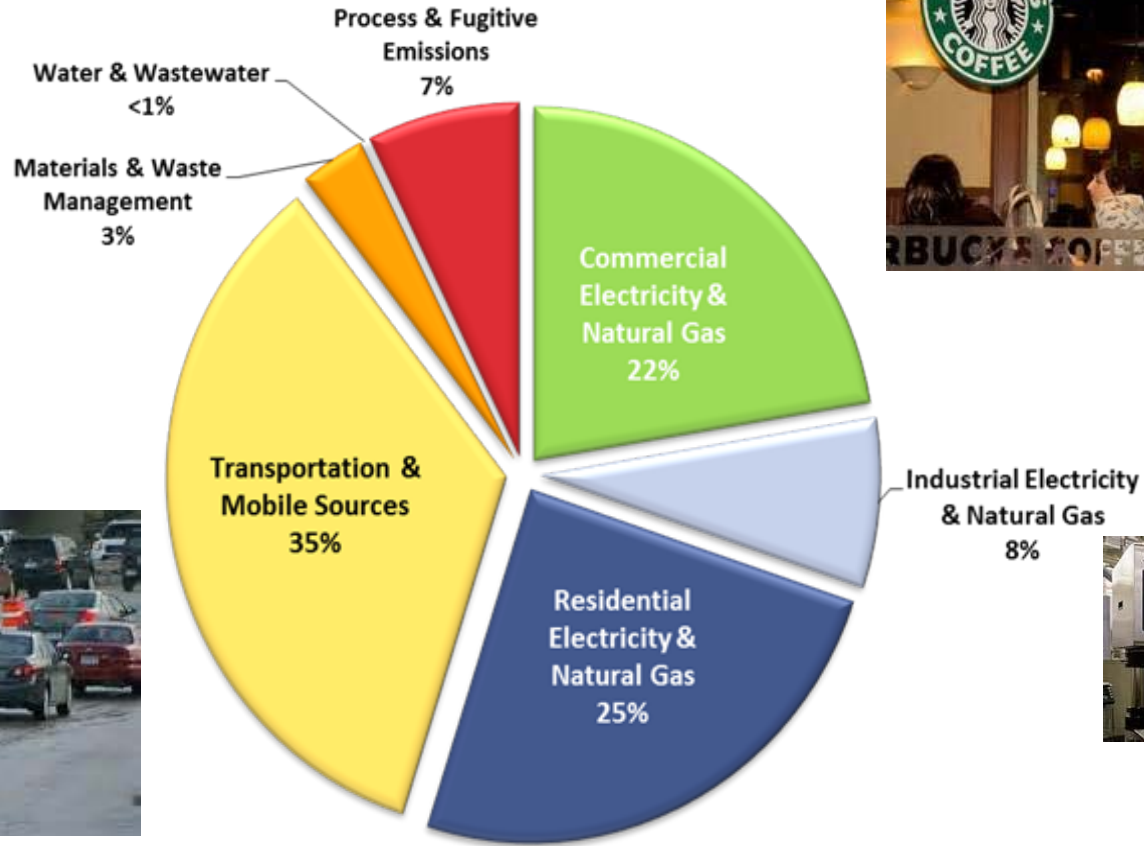


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Our Approach

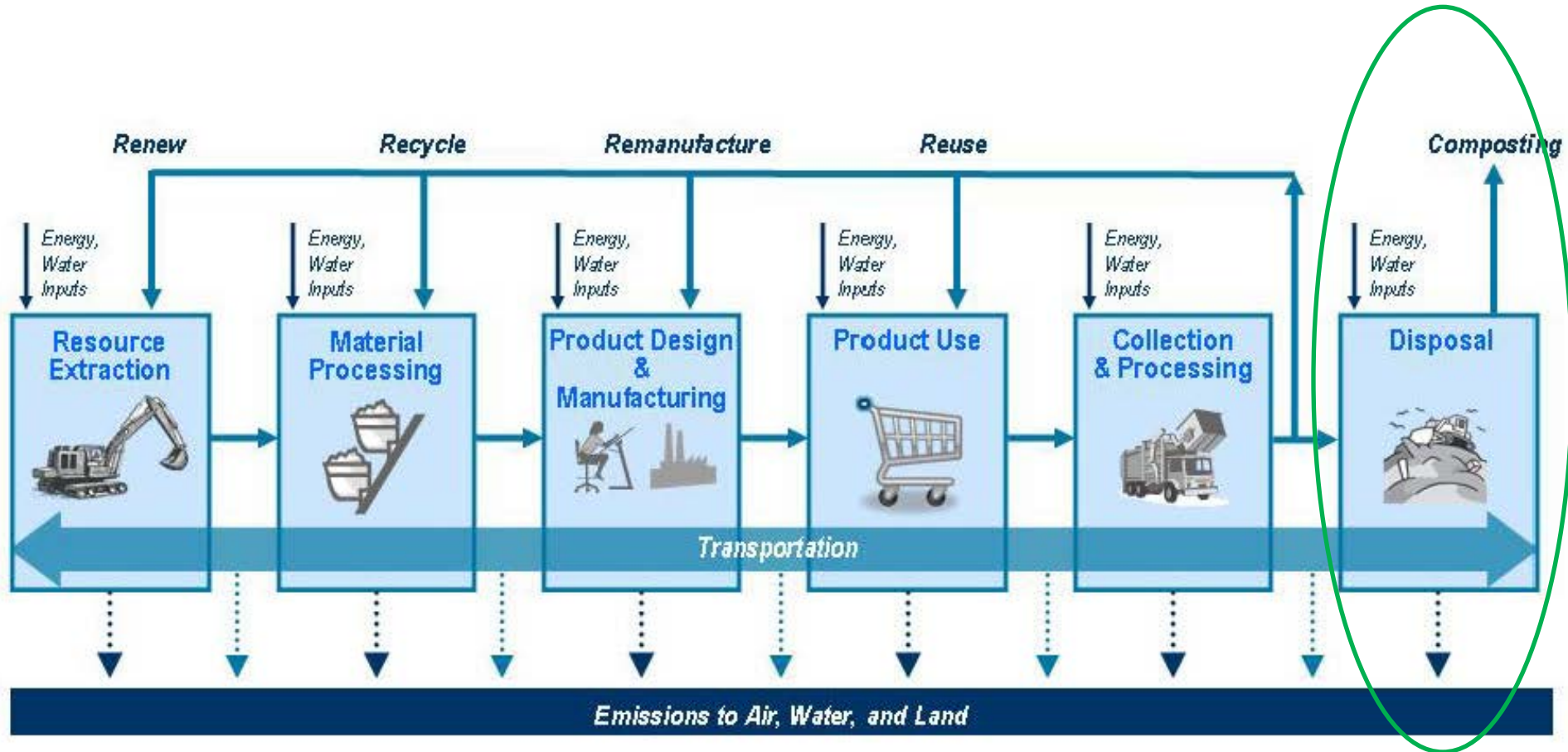
2010 Travis County GHG Emissions 14 Million Metric Tons CO₂e



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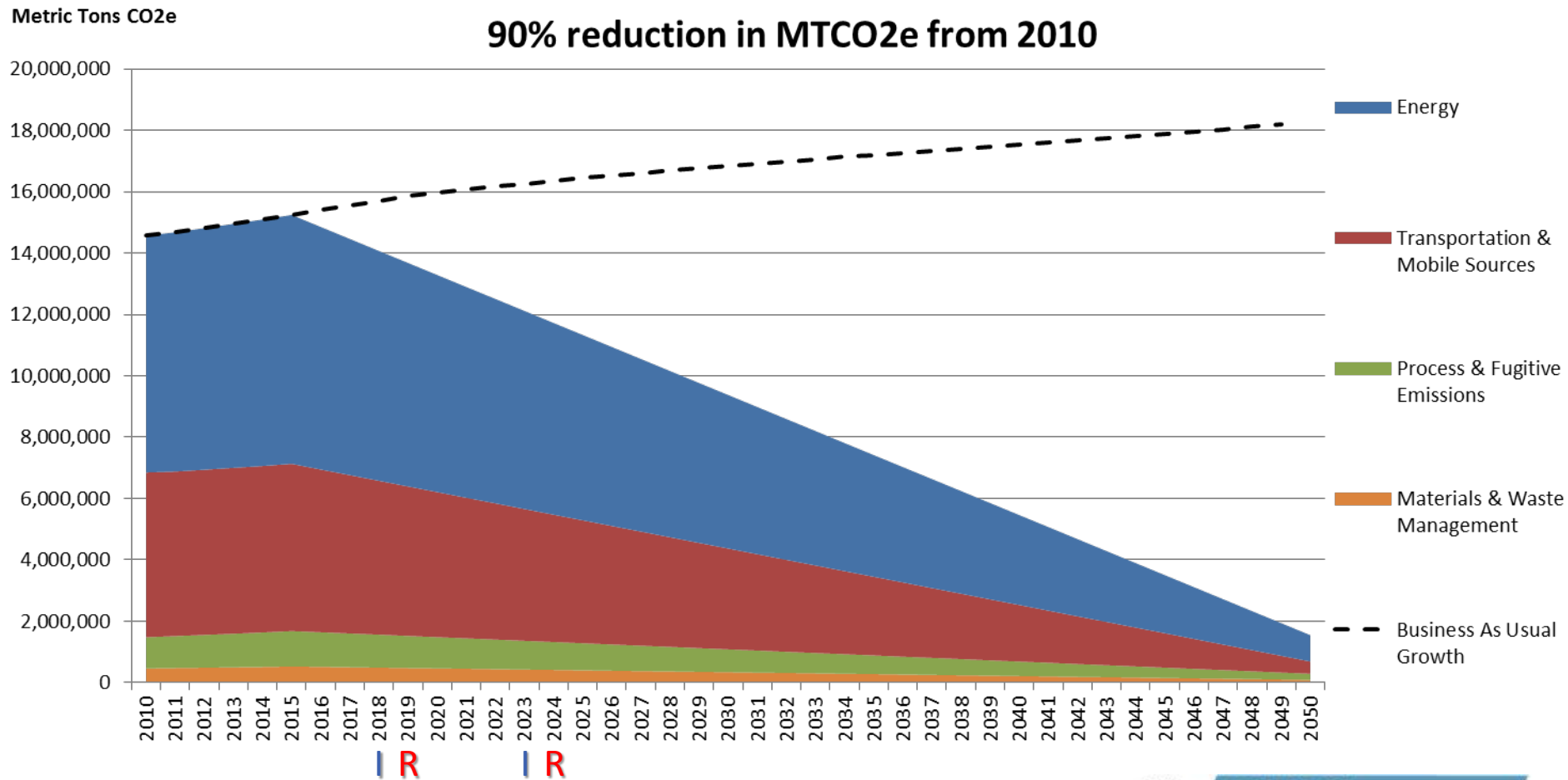
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Our Approach



Our Approach

What does net-zero in 2050 mean?



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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
Mary Dodd	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)

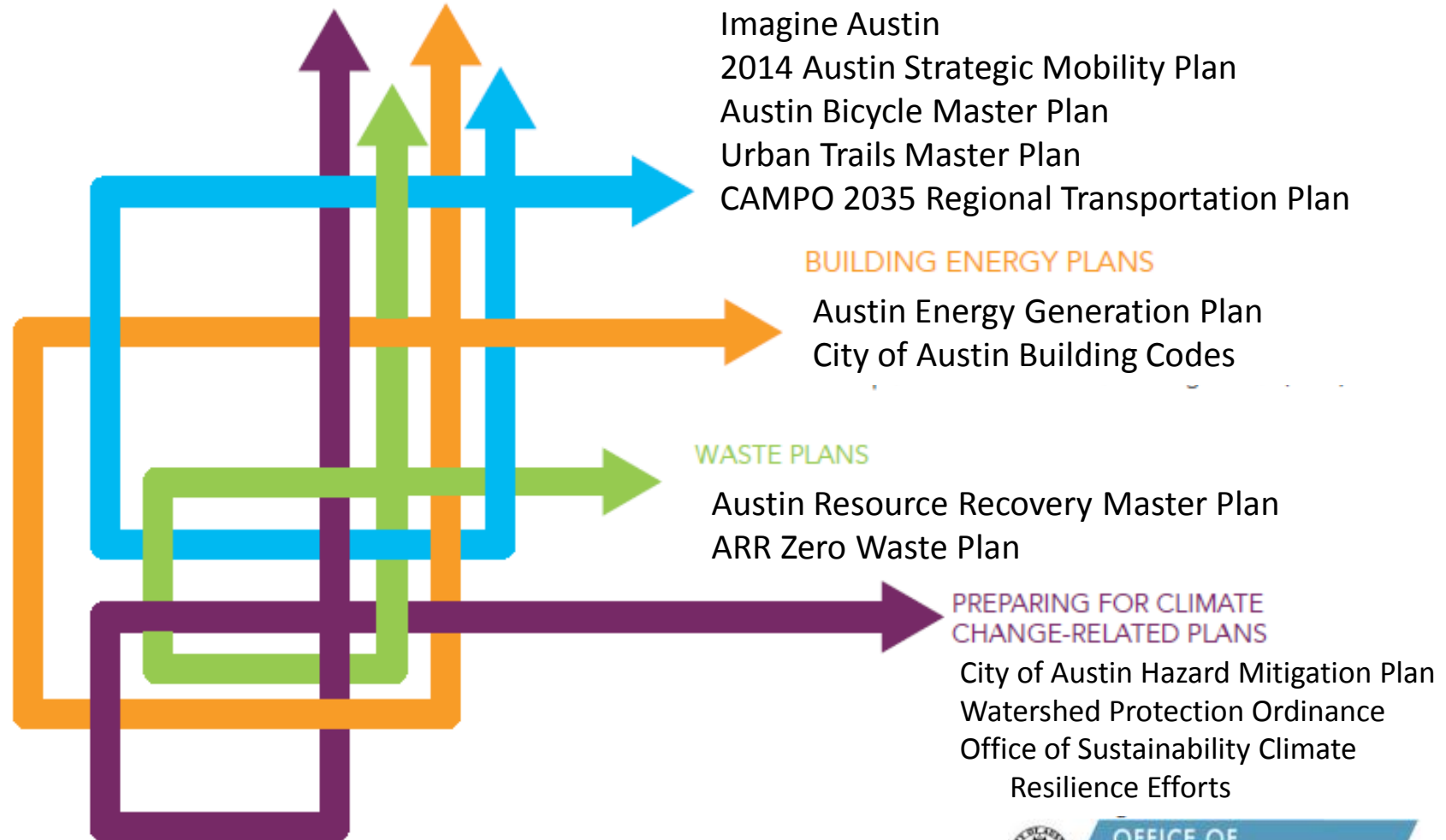


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Plan Development Process

Austin Community Climate Plan



Source:
Adapted from Seattle's Climate Action Plan



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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

Materials Management TAG: Strategies & Actions

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

Materials Management TAG: Strategies & Actions

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)**

Materials Management TAG: Strategies & Actions

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

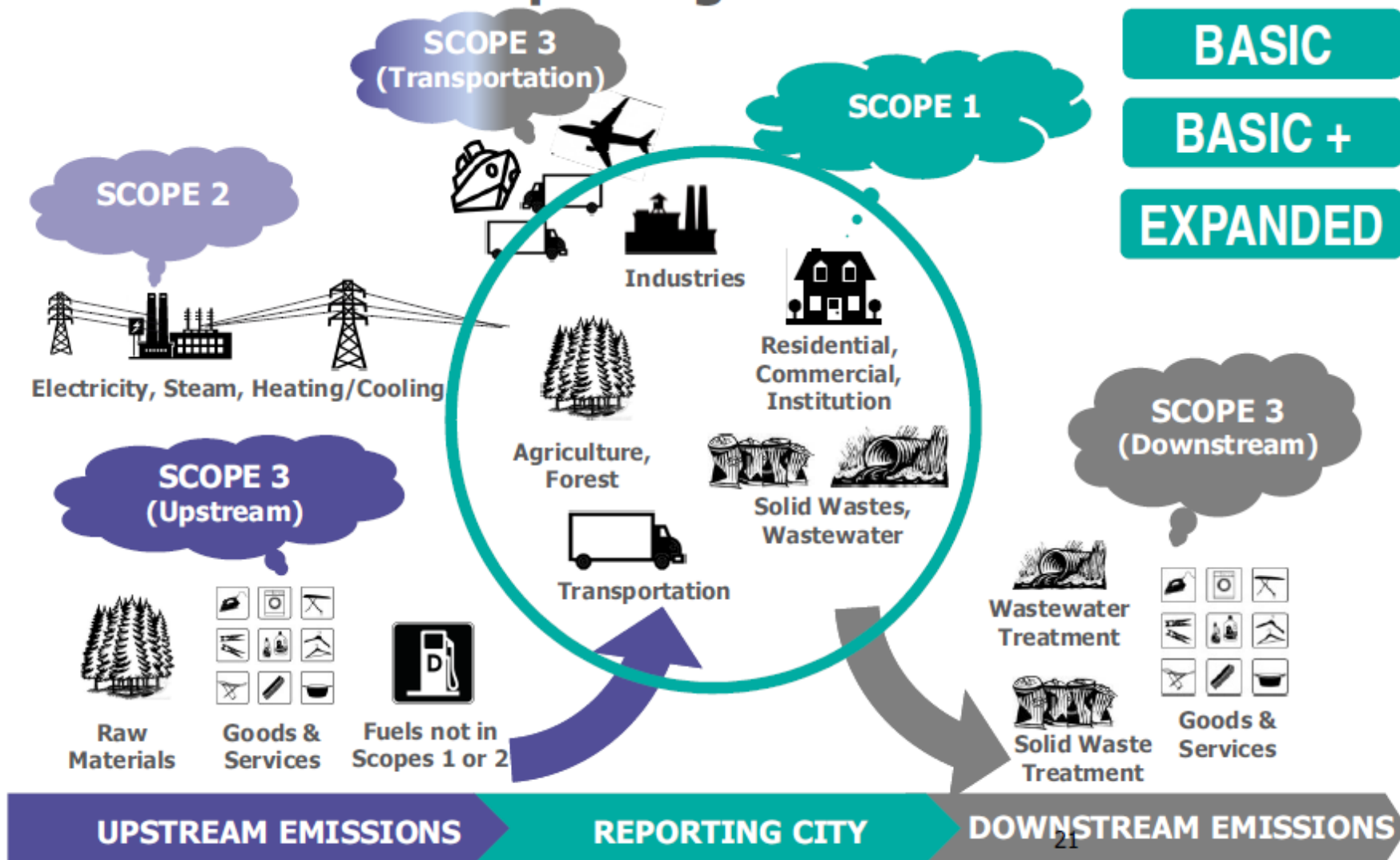
Process Next Steps

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

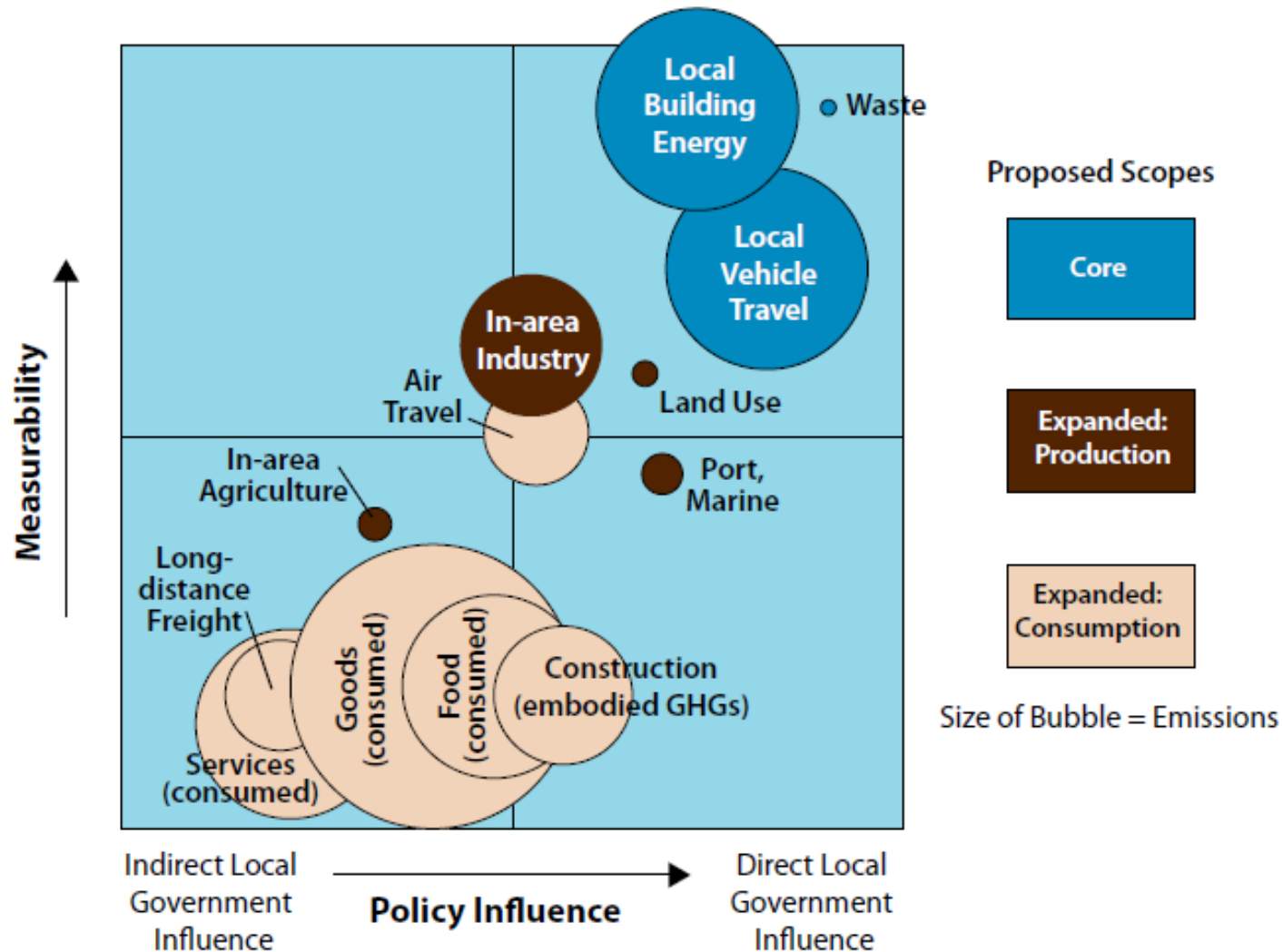
Thoughts, comments, questions?

Additional Slides

Illustration of Reporting Framework



GHG measurability vs Local Government Policy influence



Source: King County, WA