

# Joint Sustainability Committee

Meeting #1

March 30, 2016

# 1. Opening Remarks and Welcome



**Lucia Athens**

Chief Sustainability Officer

**Zach Baumer**

Climate Program Manager

**Lewis Leff**

Business Process Consultant

# 1. Opening Remarks and Welcome

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing Board &amp; Commissions</b>	<b>Board &amp; Commissions Regular Meeting Date</b>
Joep Meijer	OSES Committee appointment	
Sabrina Santos Joplin	OSES Committee appointment	
Jim Walker	OSES Committee appointment	
Roberto Rondero de Mosier	Economic Prosperity Commission	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
Stacy Guidry	Zero Waste Advisory Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday
Adrienne Haschke	Austin Travis County Food Policy Board	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday
Fred McGhee	Community Development Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
Kaiba White	Resource Management Commission	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
Derrick Norris	Electric Utility Commission	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday
Tom Donovan	Parks & Recreation Board	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday
Kelly Davis	Urban Transportation Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
Nhat Ho	Water & Waste Water Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday
Erin Gooch	Environmental Commission	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
Vacant	Planning Commission	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday

# 3.a. Overview of board purpose

## Ordinance 20150820-005

(E) The joint committee shall advise the council on matters related to conservation and sustainability, and:

- (1) review City policies and procedures relevant to the Austin Community Climate Plan, including planning, implementation, community engagement, goal setting, and progress monitoring;
- (2) promote close cooperation between the council, City management, City boards, commissions, committees, and taskforces, and individuals, institutions, and agencies concerned with the politics, procedures, and implementation of the Austin Community Climate Plan with the goal of coordinating all similar activities within the City and the community in order to secure the greatest public benefit; and
- (3) forward to the city manager all advisory material that the joint committee provides to the council, the Office of Sustainability, City departments and offices, or City boards, commissions, committees, and task forces.

# 3.a. Overview of board purpose

## Ordinance 20150820-005

(F) The joint committee may:

- (1) advise the council, the city manager, the Office of Sustainability, City departments and offices, and City boards, commissions, committees, and task forces on policy matters related to the Austin Community Climate Plan;
- (2) ask the city manager for information related to the Austin Community Climate Plan;
- (3) make recommendations to the council's Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Committee before final council action on relevant policies or procedures; and
- (4) establish advisory groups or working groups related to the Austin Community Climate Plan.

# 3.b. Bylaws – Key provisions

## Article 3

3(C) 4 year terms for board members

3(E) and 3(F) Attendance requirements and conflicts

## Article 4

4(A) and (C) Chair and Vice-chair; Term of office is one year

## Article 6

6(A) 2+ board members to place an item on the agenda, 5 days before the meeting; chair approves

## Article 7

7(A) and (B) Comply with Texas Open Meetings Act, use Robert's Rules of Order

7(D) Meeting frequency

7(F) Eight members constitute a quorum

7(H) If only 8 members are present, the board action is adopted by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of quorum (6 members); if more than a quorum is present you need affirmative vote of 8 members

## Article 8

Differences between committees and working groups



# Austin

COMMUNITY  
2015  
CLIMATE PLAN



## Item 3.d. Briefing for the Joint Sustainability Committee

March 30, 2016



AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT





# Briefing Agenda

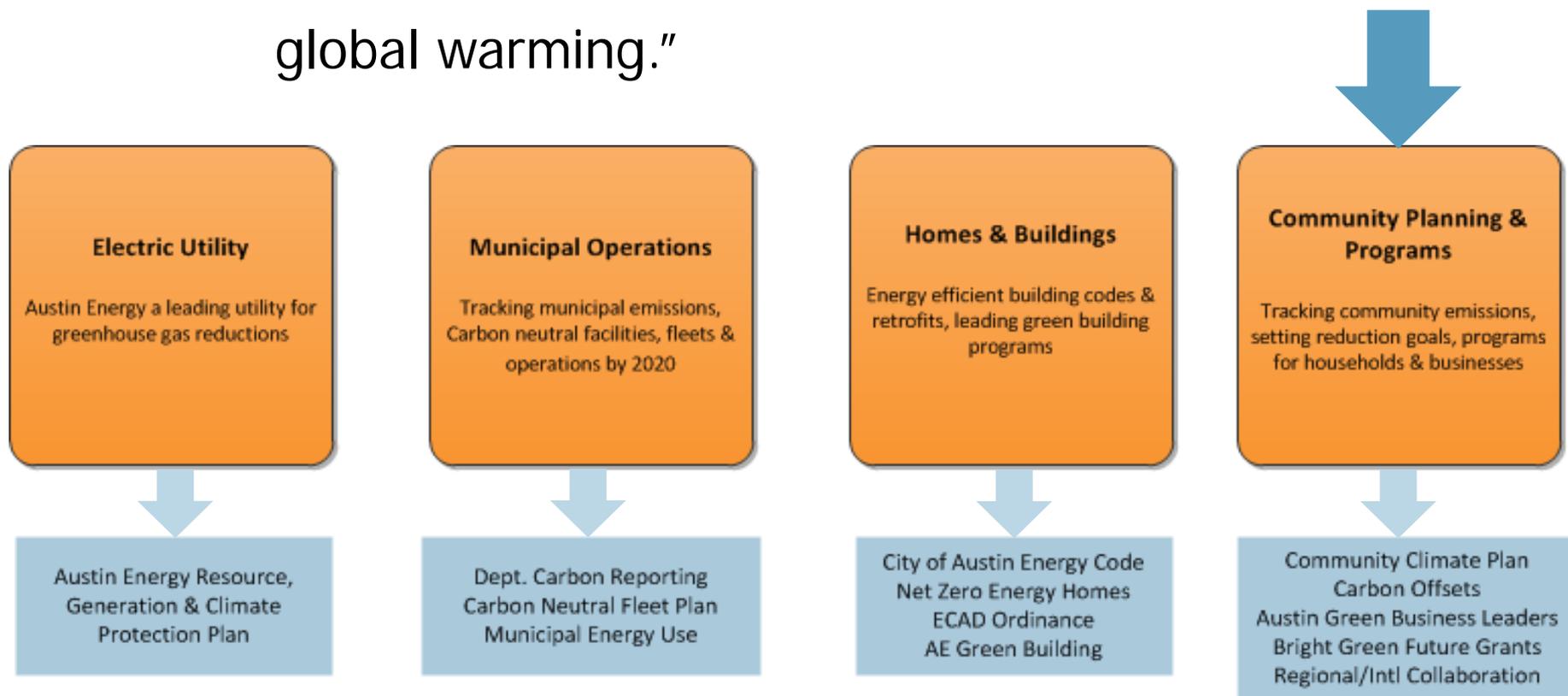
1. Policy Direction on Climate Planning
2. Community Greenhouse Gas Sources
3. Plan Development Process and Adoption
4. Progress Update and Implementation Plan
5. Potential Activities of the Joint Sustainability Committee





# Policy: 2007 Climate Protection Resolution

“Make Austin the leading city in the nation in the effort to reduce the negative impacts of global warming.”





# Policy: 2014 Net-Zero Council Resolution

## Net-zero community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2050

- Achieve as soon as feasible
- Create action plan for each major emissions sector
- Propose interim targets starting with 2020

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has made significant progress on the goals set out in the 2007 ACPP, either meeting its goals ahead of time or being on schedule to meet its goals by 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2007 ACPP and the current AE Resource, Generation, and Climate Protection Plan to 2020 are now reaching a point where an update is needed to ensure the City of Austin and Austin Energy continue as leaders in climate protection efforts; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:** The City Council establishes a goal of reaching net zero community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and prefers to achieve this goal as soon as it is feasible. The City Council also recognizes that emissions reductions accomplished sooner are more important and valuable for our city's climate protection efforts.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

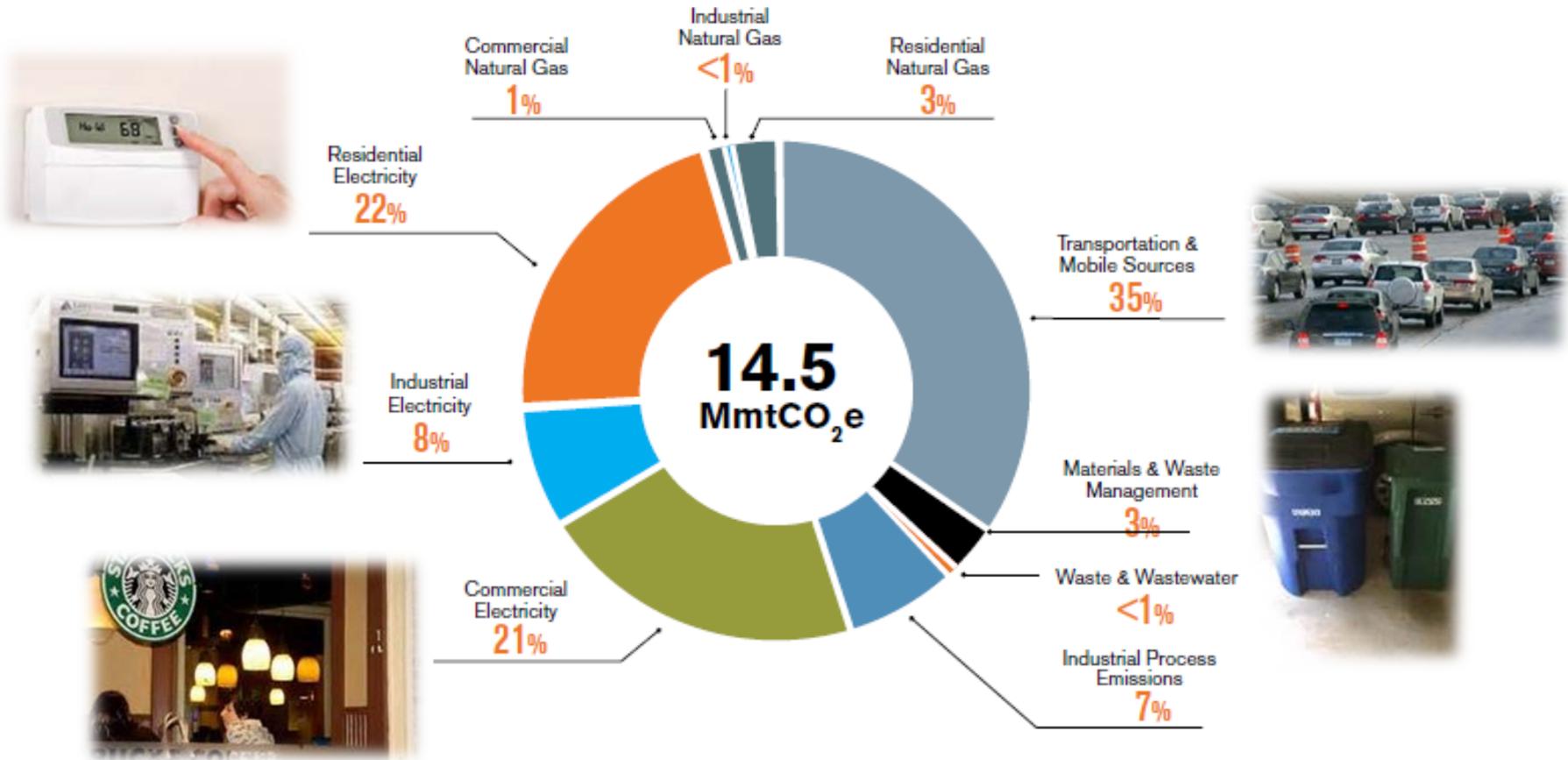
The City Manager is directed to review the goals and objectives within the 2007 Austin Climate Protection Plan and work with stakeholders to create an action plan for each major sector (energy, transportation, and waste/industrial) responsible for the community-wide greenhouse gas emissions in Austin in order to meet the new long-term goal. The action plans should include secondary goals and measures for sector-specific factors such as renewable energy, building energy use reductions, vehicle miles traveled, waste diversion rates, and more. The plans should determine what is achievable for each sector and how the other sectors could make up for any shortfalls in reaching the interim community-wide goals.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The sector action plans should include greenhouse gas reductions that will be achieved by implementing existing City plans and also include new actions

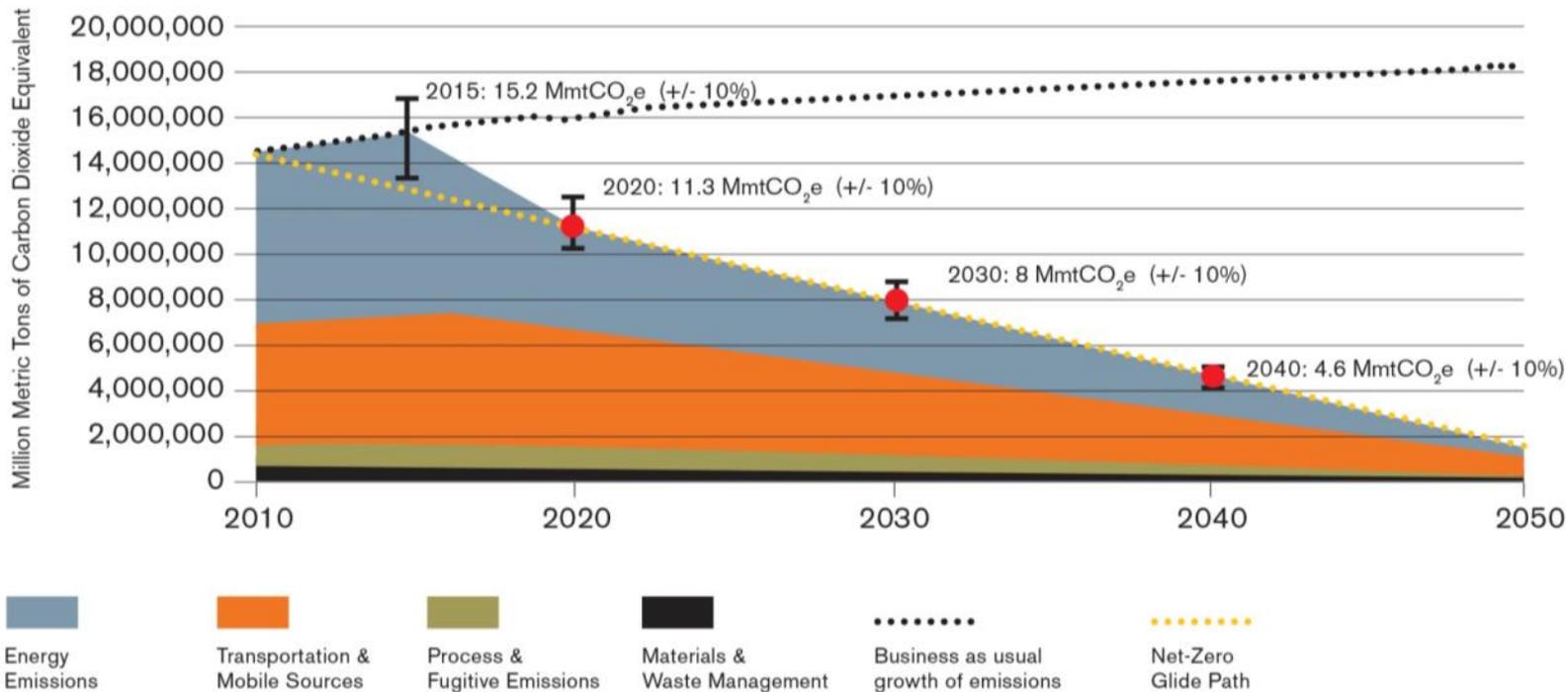


# 2010 Estimated Travis County Greenhouse Gas Inventory





# What does net-zero in 2050 mean?





# Plan Development Begins

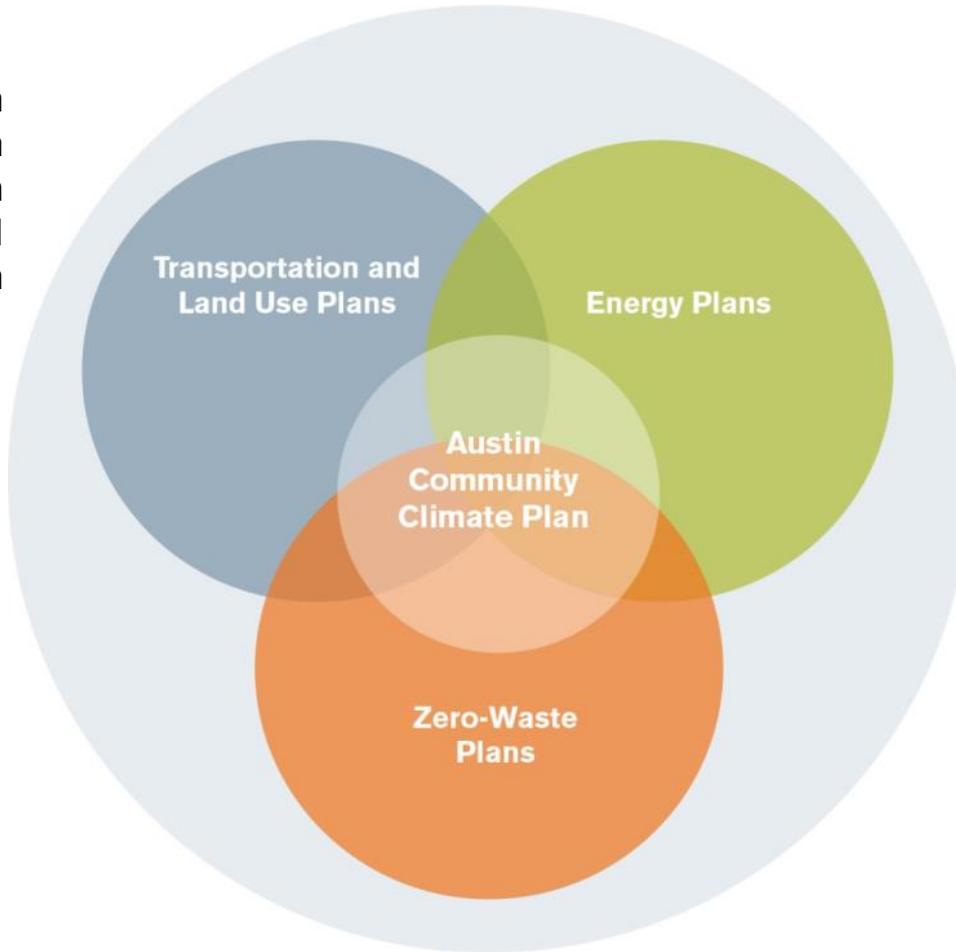
1. Community Steering Committee
2. Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs)
  - Electricity and Natural Gas
  - Transportation
  - Materials Management
  - Industrial Process





# Coordinating to Reach Common Goals

Imagine Austin  
Austin Bicycle Master Plan  
Urban Trails Master Plan  
CAMPO 2035 Regional  
Transportation Plan



Austin Energy Resource,  
Generation, and Climate  
Protection Plan

Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan



# Emissions Reductions Strategies

## Electricity and Natural Gas

- Buildings and Integrated Efficiency
- Promote Behavior Change
- Resource Technologies

## Transportation and Land Use

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

## Materials and Waste Management

- Organics Diversion
- Purchasing
- Methane Management
- Recycle / Reduce / Reuse

## Industrial Process

- Fuel Switching
- Process Optimization
- Capture and Destruction
- Local Offsets



# Phased Approach

Phase 1: mostly  
2015-2020  
(58 Actions)

Phase 2: mostly  
2020-2030  
(60 Actions)

Phase 3: mostly  
2030-2050  
(17 Actions)

Electricity and  
Natural Gas  
(55% of total  
emissions)



Transportation  
and Land Use  
(35% of total  
emissions)



Materials and  
Waste Management  
(3% of total  
emissions)





# Personalized 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



# Additional Community Benefits



				
Reduced energy costs	Improved energy security and reliability	Decreased risk of energy shortages or outages	Greater affordability for all	Reduced pollution
				
Improved air quality	Improved public health	Thriving local economy	Expanded local jobs creation	Enhanced transit system
				
Reduced traffic congestion	Safer streets	Improved disaster preparedness	Protected and enhanced ecosystems	Diminished water consumption by power plants



# Public Input

## Austin Community Climate Plan Survey

The City Council established a goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions for the whole community by 2050. Emissions are created by many of the things we do on a daily basis (using non-renewable energy, driving our cars, adding trash to landfills).

This new goal was created so that we can avoid the worst impacts from climate change, have cleaner air and water, produce less waste, and live in a more sustainable city.

The survey will ask questions about energy use, transportation, and then materials management. We appreciate your help in identifying the actions we will need to take as a community to reach that net zero goal.

Begin!

**speakupaustin!** The City of Austin's community engagement portal

We have a solid list of strategies and actions that the City of Austin and the community can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the electricity and natural gas sector. Please review them below, vote for the ones you like best, and let us know here if you have additional thoughts to share about them.

Enter your idea here... [Submit](#)

**Forum: Austin Climate Plan: Electricity and Natural Gas**

The Austin City Council passed [Resolution 20140410-024](#), which established a long-term goal of becoming a net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions city by 2050. In other words, we want to reduce emissions to as close to zero as possible to ensure a cleaner, healthier, and safer community for decades to come. To do this, we need your help. [Planning committees](#) have identified four overarching strategy areas (listed as "ideas" below), including related actions, for the electricity and natural gas sectors based on leading research, current city programs, and public input to date.

The Office of Sustainability needs your input regarding these draft strategies and actions.

- Which strategies should the plan prioritize? (You can hit the "vote" button to vote up the strategy.)
- Are we missing any actions that could reduce emissions?
- What else needs to be considered?

12 Ideas 0 Comments Closes 2014-12-06

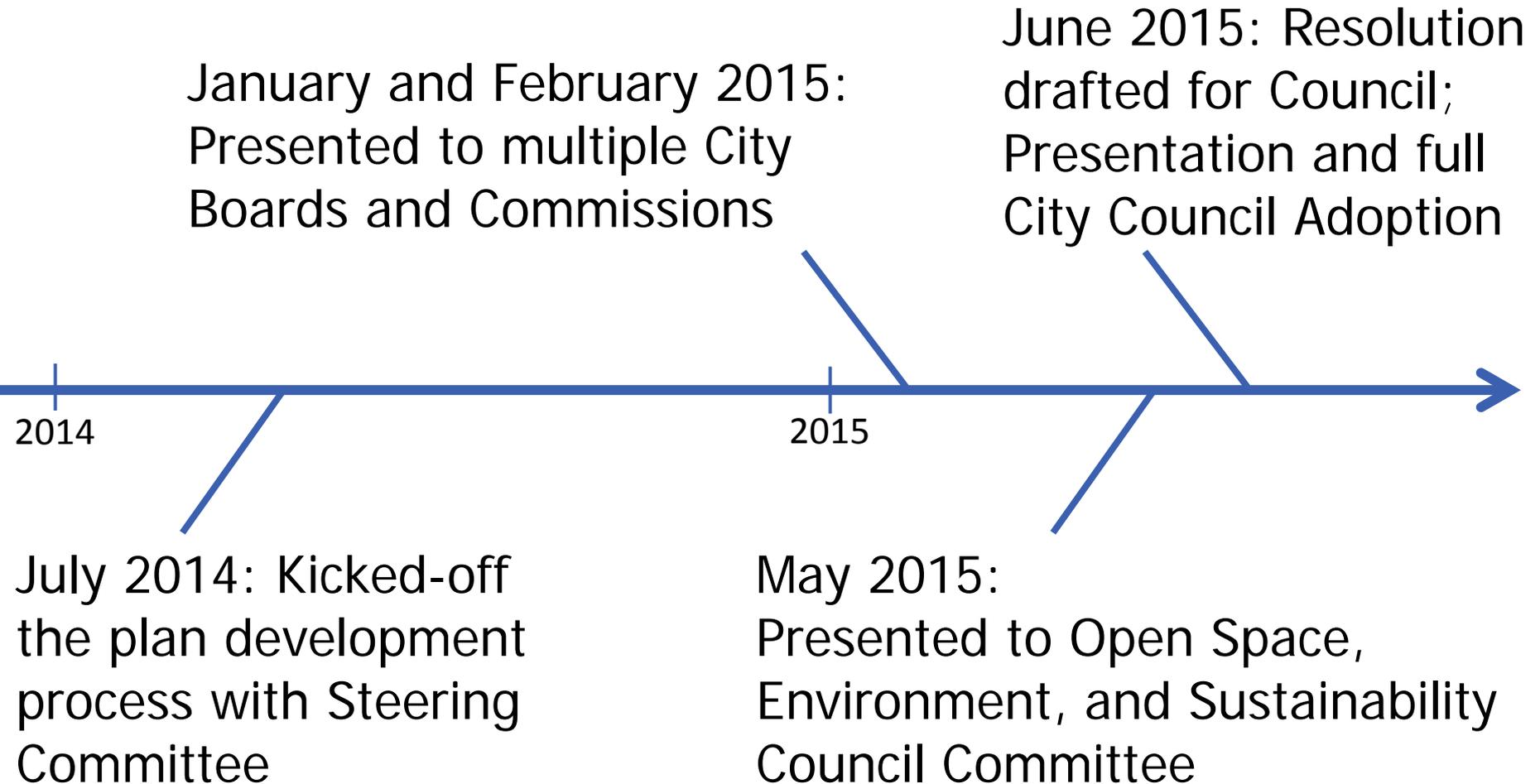
COA Office of Sustainability

IDEAS IN ACTION

MACC parking available to residents with proof of residency during street closures March 17-20. MACC permit required. Enforcement to prevent SISW



# Additional Input and Plan Adoption





# Plan Recommendations

1. Continue to invest resources in implementing adopted policies and plans; make progress on top key actions.
2. Develop an implementation plan for all Phase 1 actions, and create a public outreach and engagement plan
3. Determine feasibility of a carbon impact statement that could be used to inform policy makers of the greenhouse gas emissions impacts of major City decisions.
4. Determine the feasibility of a local carbon fee or trading and investment program.
5. Invest in further study of climate projections for Central Texas, continue climate resilience planning efforts



# Implementation Plan and Progress Update

## Implementation Plan Purpose

- Transparency and accountability to stakeholders
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities of various City departments
- Create a well-defined set of requirements for Phase 1 actions to be successful by identifying:
  - Actions needing additional funding or resources
  - Actions that are likely not going to achieve anticipated emissions reductions
  - Actions that come at too high of a cost

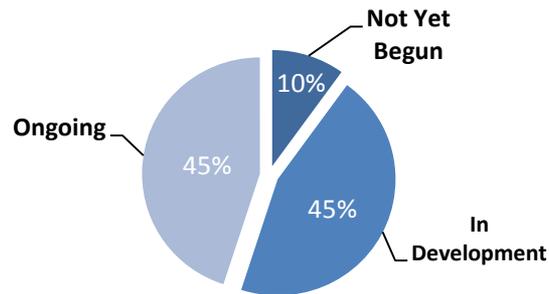
58 Phase 1 actions to be implemented between 2015-2020

Data collection with Departments

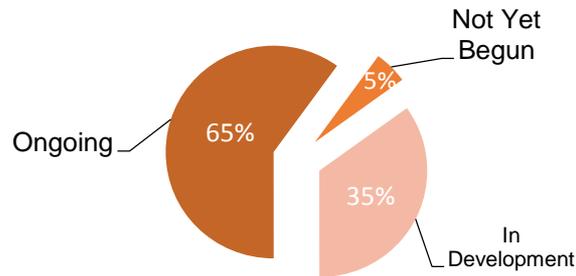


# Action Status Summary

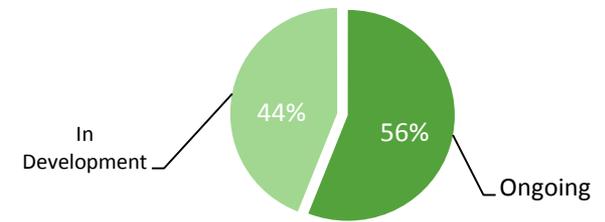
## Electricity and Natural Gas Phase 1 Action Status



## Transportation Phase 1 Action Status



## Materials and Waste Management Phase 1 Action Status



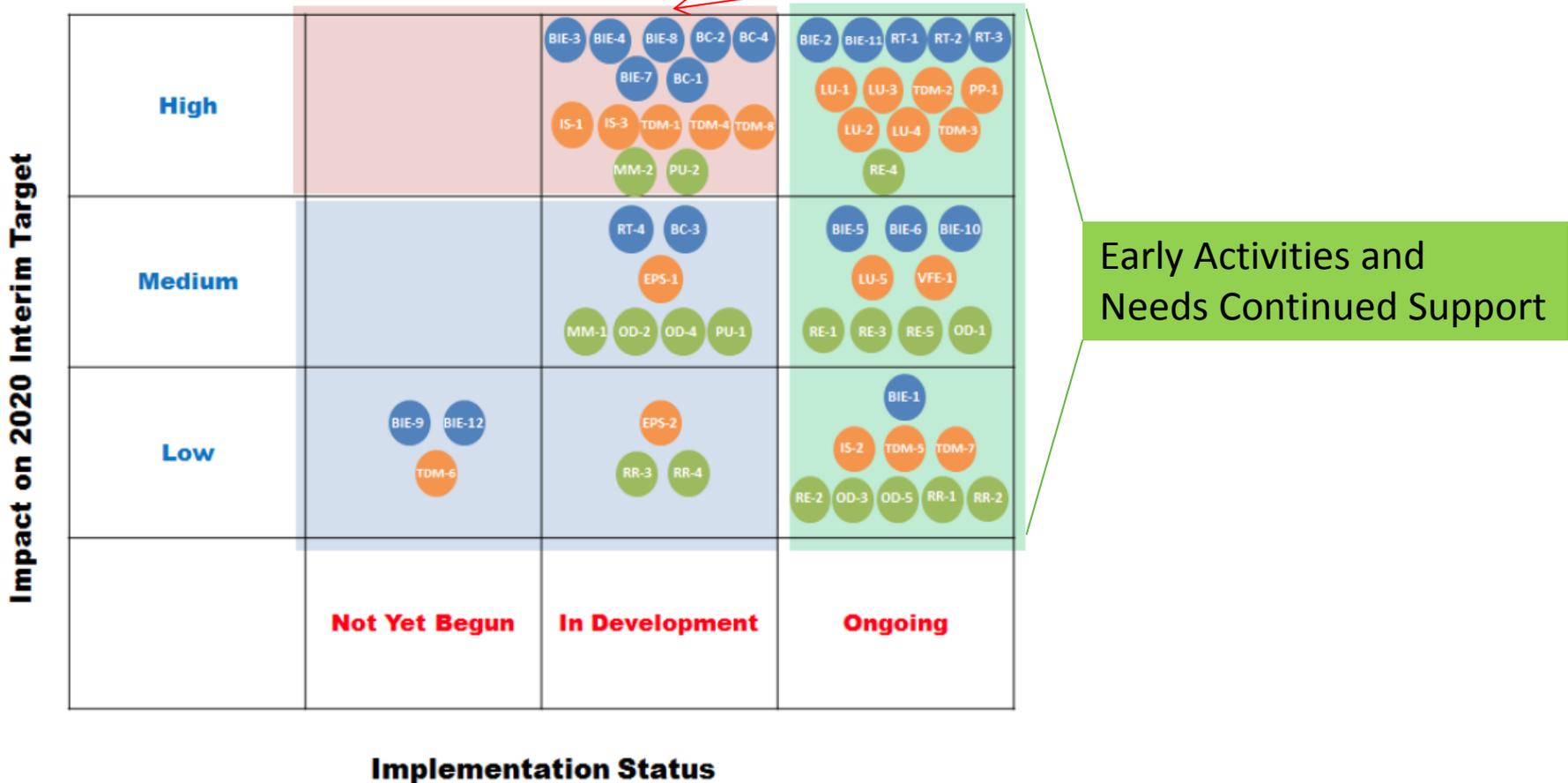
Action	Current Program	Cost	Carbon Impact	Status	Impact to Reaching 2020 Target
<b>Buildings and Integrated Efficiency (BIE)-1:</b> Explore financing mechanisms to enable energy efficiency, demand response, distributed generation and energy storage. Possible financing mechanisms which could enable large amounts of private sector retrofits include Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) and Warehouse for Energy Efficiency Loans (WHEEL), and privately financed on-bill repayment.	Austin Energy continuously tracks and evaluates ways to provide demand-side management benefits to customers. Austin Energy was part of the initial team on PACE and actively supports, advertises, and educates prospective customers. PACE has their first customer as of February 2016.  WHEEL was not approved in the Texas Legislature. On Bill repayment has many challenges and costs.	Austin Energy staff continue to monitor financing mechanisms available as part of Customer Energy Solutions programs. No additional cost.	PACE has their first customer as of February 2016. Austin Energy will begin to document savings as this program progresses.	<b>ONGOING</b>	<b>LOW</b>



# Action Status + Impact to Goal

**Austin Community Climate Plan – All Phase 1 Actions**

**Actions for Focus**





# Early Activities and Needs Continued Support

## Austin Energy

- 580 megawatts combined of utility scale solar
- Community solar, 1-2 megawatt project at the Kingsbery substation in East Austin
- Department of Energy grant - Optimize distributed renewable energy resources
- Ongoing Austin Energy programs related to energy efficiency, demand response, green buildings, local solar, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure

## Transportation Department

- 20/20 Mobility – working to reduce peak-hour drive alone commuting.
- Bike Month and the fourth annual VIVA! Streets Austin event
- Implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan
- Signaling Improvements
- Land use regulations that encourage compact and connected development patterns
- Capital Metro is currently developing its Connections 2025

## Austin Resource Recovery

- Implementation of the Universal Recycling Ordinance is underway
- Initiated a study to determine ways of beneficially using methane at the City's closed landfill
- Combined and expanded the Household Hazardous Waste and Resource Recovery Center into the Reuse and Recycling Drop-Off Center.



# Actions for Focus

- **Buildings and Integrated Efficiency Actions 3, 7, and 8, and Behavior Change Actions 1, 2, and 4:** Austin Energy is currently evaluating behavioral, renewable energy and metering programs that will utilize energy usage data to benefit both customers and emissions reduction targets. This evaluation process will continue through FY17.
- **Transportation Demand Management Actions 1 and 8:** The Smart Trips initiative and others like it need to be continued and expanded to achieve the greatest emissions reduction.
- **Purchasing Actions 1 and 2:** In order to make significant progress in this area, dedicated staff time is needed to develop and implement a city-wide Sustainable Purchasing Policy.
- **Methane Management Action 2:** The City of Austin will continue to encourage the landfill operators to increase the capture and destruction of landfill gas in Travis County.
- **Recycling Action 4 and Organics Diversion Action 1:** Continued investment in marketing and outreach efforts must be made to realize the goals of the Universal Recycling Ordinance, as well as related emissions reductions.



# Net Zero Heroes





# Austin Community Climate Plan Next Steps

- Complete study of Carbon Impact Statement and Carbon Fund best practices and opportunities
- Further develop quantitative tools and metrics for greenhouse gas reporting
- Expand Communications and Outreach activities
- Progress update to Council in September 2016





# Questions and Discussion