

AUSTIN CLIMATE EQUITY PLAN



Austin Climate Equity Plan

October 2021



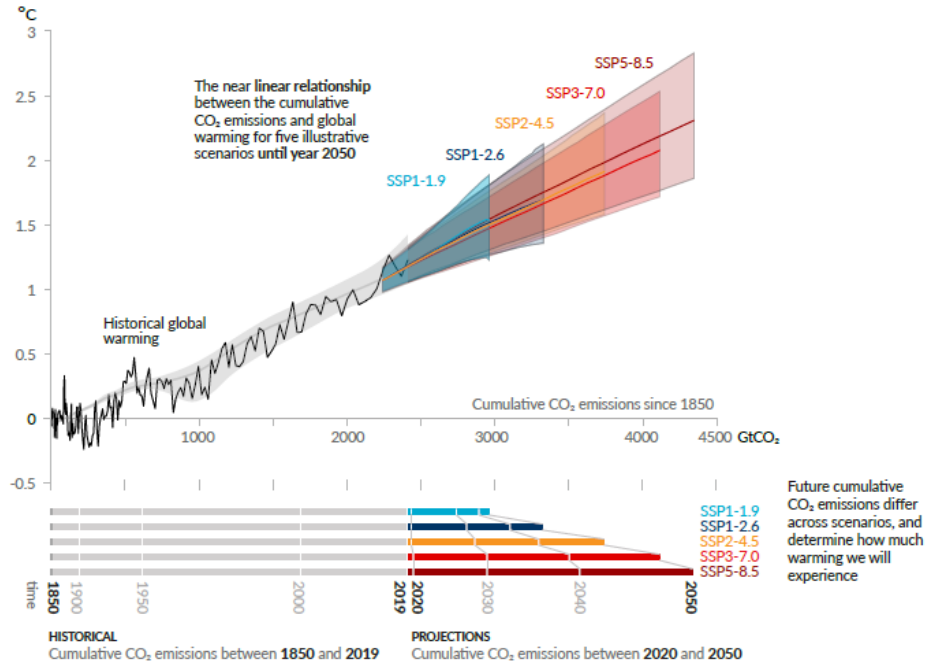
OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY

CITY OF AUSTIN

IPCC 6th Assessment Report

Every tonne of CO₂ emissions adds to global warming

Global surface temperature increase since 1850-1900 (°C) as a function of cumulative CO₂ emissions (GtCO₂)



Austin Climate Projections

- Low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately affected by climate hazards
 - Experience climate shocks on top of existing economic stressors
 - Have less resources to bounce back from event
 - Suffer long-term impacts to mental and physical health



HIGHER TEMPERATURES



EXTENDED PERIODS OF DROUGHT



INCREASED RISK OF WILDFIRE

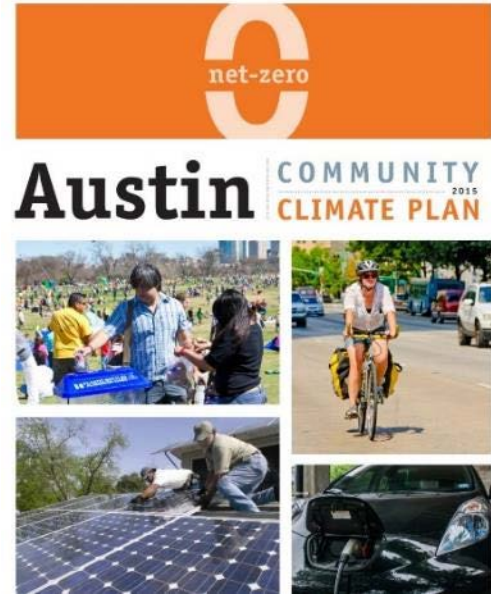


INTENSE RAIN AND FLOODING



Climate Planning Timeline

- June 2015 First Plan adopted by Council
- November 2019 5 year Update Process Begins
- September 2020 Version 1.0 released for Public Comment
- November 2020 Version 2.0
- December 2020 Process put on hold due to TX Legislature
- January 2021 Version 3.0
- Jan – May 2021 87th Texas Legislative Session
- August 2021 Version 4.0 DRAFT FINAL complete
- September 2021 Formally Adopted by City Council





What This Plan “is” and “is not”

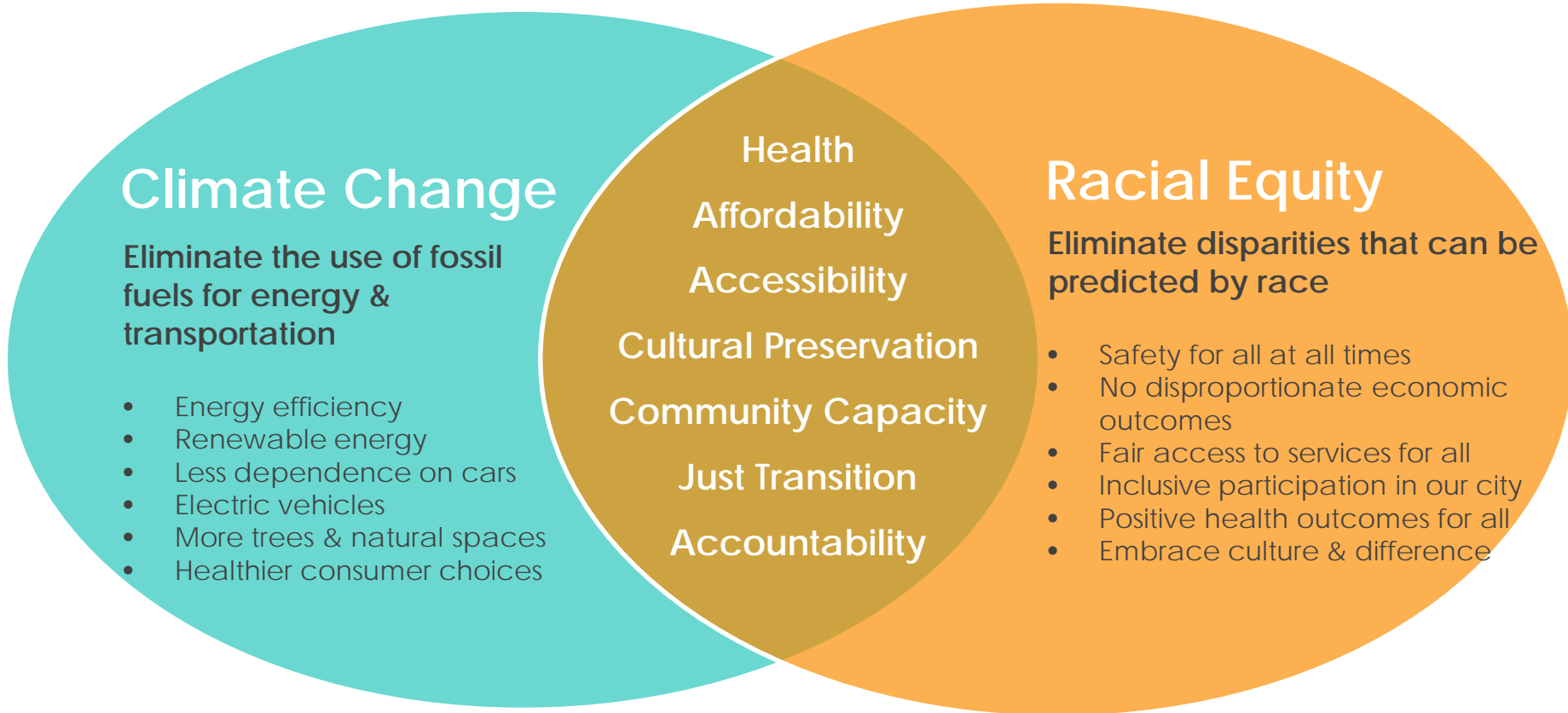
The Austin Climate Equity Plan IS:

- Product of co-creation between staff & over 120 community members / businesses
- Aggressive but realistic approach to reducing emissions, not a resilience plan
- Builds upon existing City plans + chart new visionary goals / actions
- High-level road map: 10-year sector goals + 5-year strategies

The Austin Climate Equity Plan IS NOT:

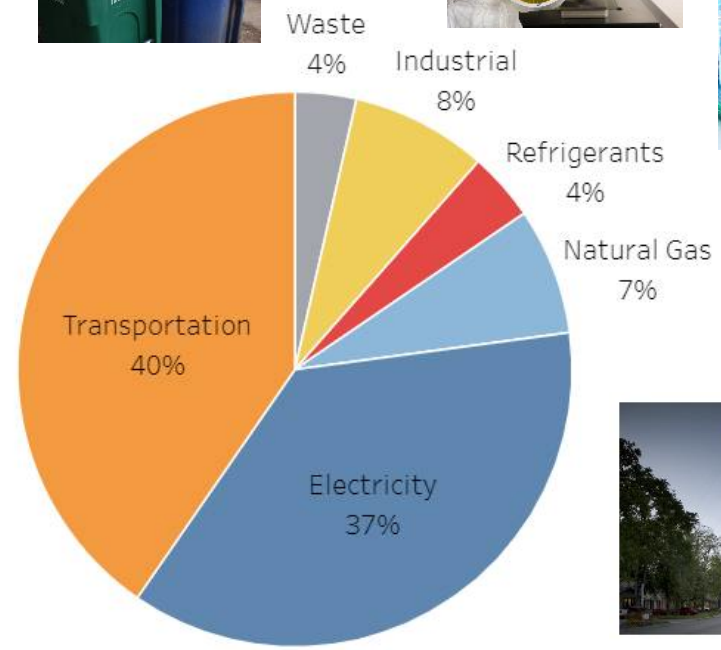
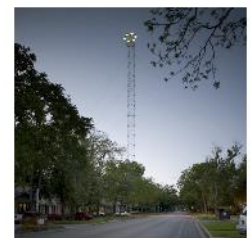
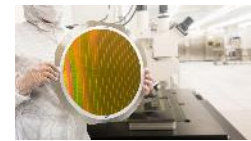
- The Austin Energy Generation Plan, which has a huge positive impact on reducing emissions. They are complementary.
- Exhaustive of everything needed to address climate change
- Implementation plan with exact costs, benefits, & funding identified

Plan Commitment to Racial Equity



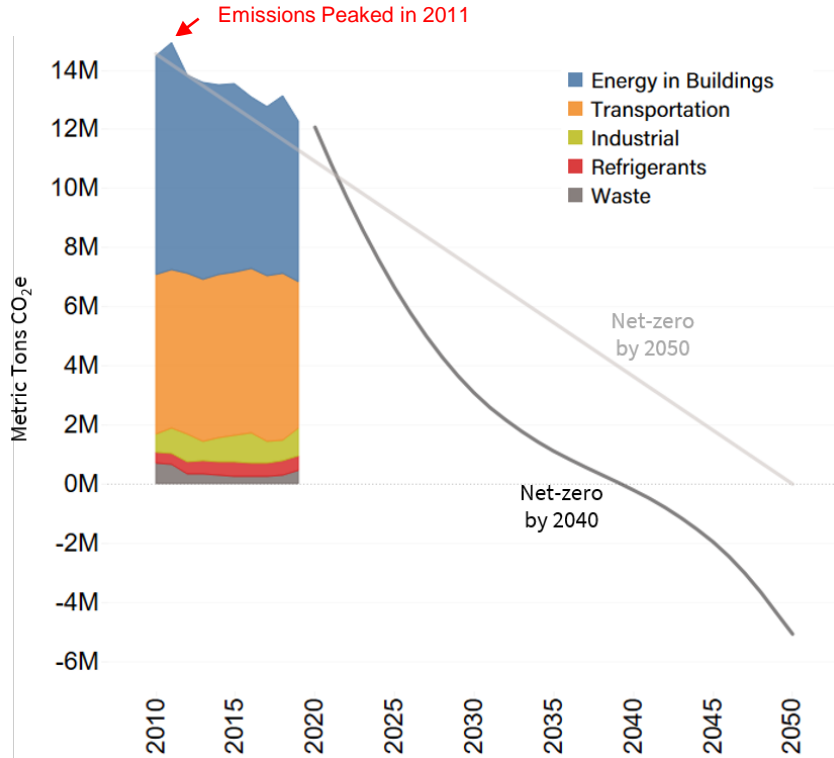
If we're not proactively addressing equity, we're perpetuating injustice.

City of Austin – Community Carbon Footprint



2019: 12.3 million metric tons CO₂e

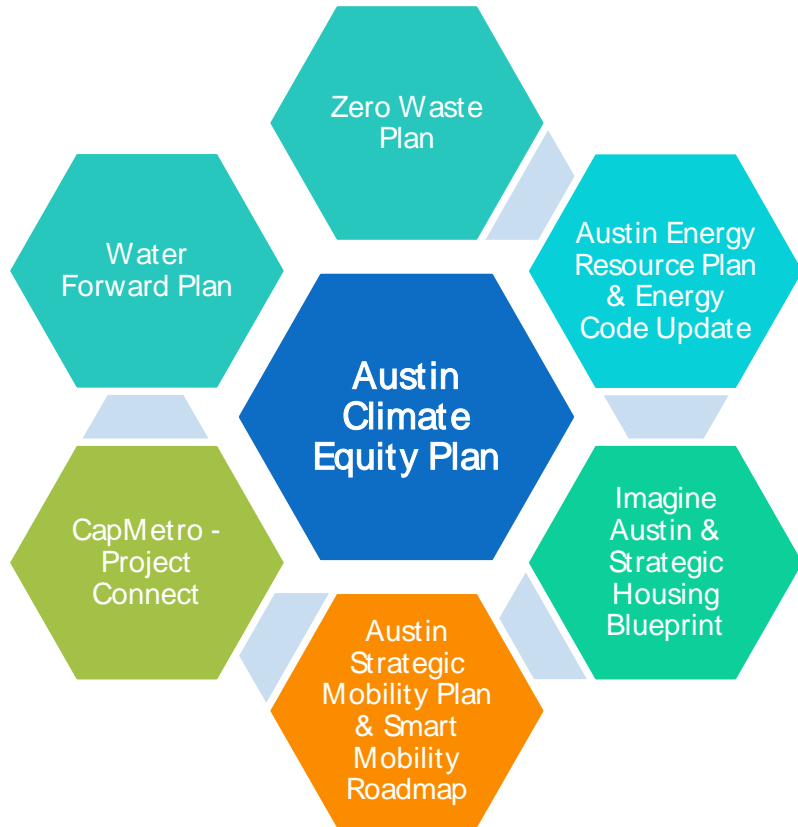
New Proposed Community-Wide Goal



Previous Goal: Net-zero by 2050
(Previously Adopted by Council)

New Goal: Net-zero by 2040
(Adopted by Council on 9/30/21)

A Plan Among Plans

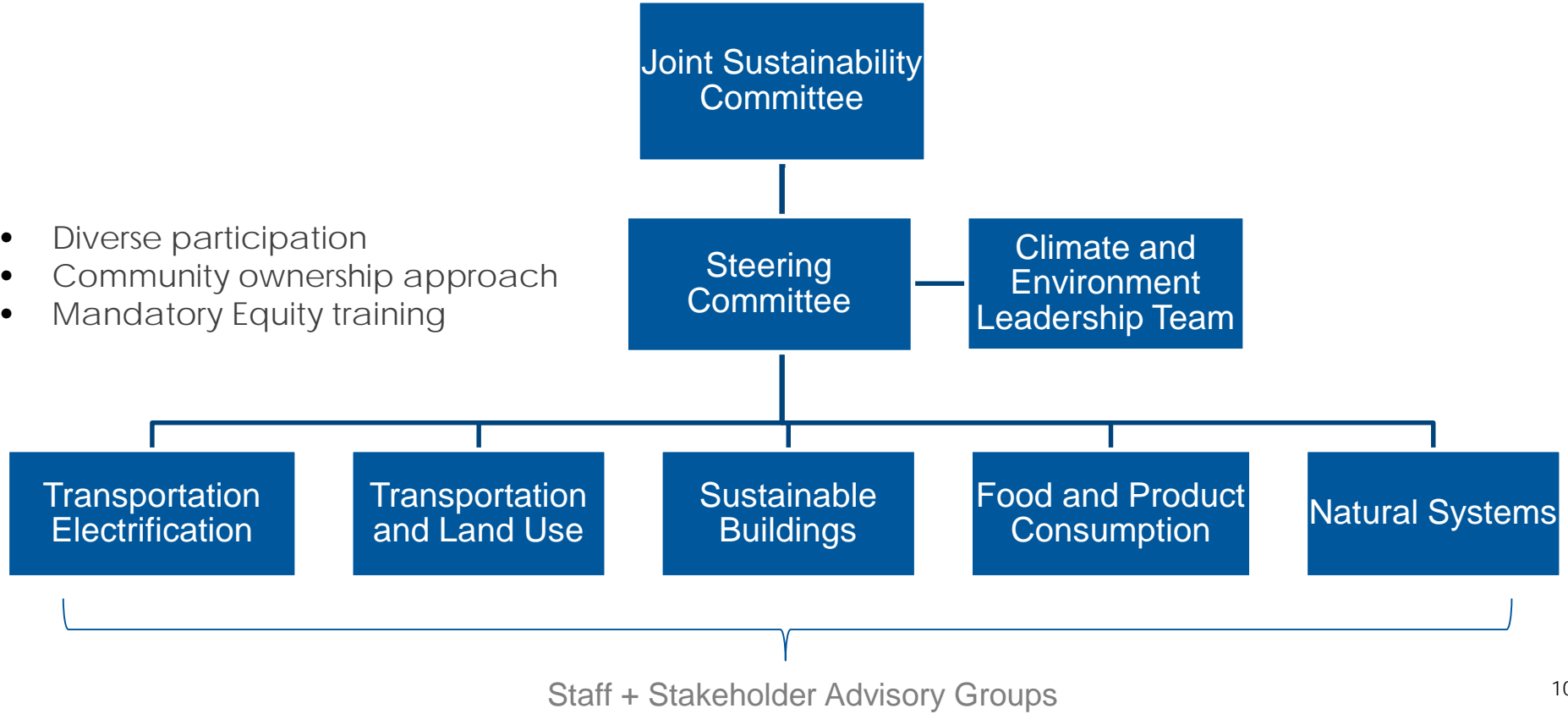


Climate Equity Plan

5 Plan Sections

- Sustainable Buildings
- Transportation Electrification
- Transportation & Land Use
- Natural Systems
- Consumption

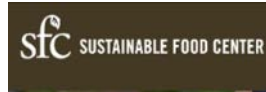
Plan Development Process



Participating Stakeholder Organizations



TBG



THE CONSERVATION FUND

CENTRAL HEALTH



Texas Electric Transportation Resources Alliance



TEXAS

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY



amala FOUNDATION



can Community Advancement Network



Perkins & Will



SUNRISE MOVEMENT



The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School



A Division of ONE Gas



The University of Texas at Austin Energy Institute

TRAVISCOUNTYTX.GOV



INTEGRAL



Community Climate Ambassadors



- 50% African American/Black
- 25% Latino/Hispanic
- 8% Asian
- 8% Pacific Islander
- 8% Two or more races
- Over 50% under 24 years old
- Over 75% female

Priorities & concerns

Ambassadors helped identify these high-level community concerns, which will be detailed further in the next section.



50 Signatories - Austin Climate Leaders Pledge



AIA Austin

Alamo Drafthouse

American Youthworks

Applied Materials

Asakura Robinson

Austin FC

Austin Habitat for Humanity

Austin Parks Foundation

Barr Mansion

Black + Vernooy

BEST

Britt Design Group

Capital Metro

Catellus Development

Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems

Citizens Climate Lobby

Climate Buddies

Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundation

Ecological Estates, LLC

Enotech Engineering Consultants

EcoRise

Environmental Resources Management

Foundation Communities

Great Springs Project

HM Risk Group

Lake | Flato Architects

Landmark Surveying

Stanley Studios

McKinney York Architects

Movability Austin

Patagonia Austin

Pease Park Conservancy

Perkins and Will

Positive Energy

Pure WRX Inc

Save Barton Creek Association

Shademaker Studio, LLC

SPEER

Studio 8 Architects

Studio DWG

Sustainable Food Center

Tesla Gigafactory Texas

The Purple Fig Eco Cleaning Company

The Trail Foundation

The VORTEX

Tree Folks

USGBS, Texas Chapter

Walter P Moore

Travis Audubon

United Way, Greater Austin

Plan Overview

4 Cross-Cutting Strategies - Big picture **themes**

17 Goals – To be accomplished **by 2030** to keep on track

74 Strategies - Progress in next **5 years**

Equity Throughout, particularly in *Strategies*

- Prioritize **incentives** + target communications towards **low-income & communities of color**
- Just transition **to green jobs** for new industries & technology
- Prioritize health + other benefits for **Eastern Crescent**
- **Center communities of color** in ongoing learning

2030 RESOURCE GENERATION PLAN



Customer Driven.
Community Focused.™

- 93% carbon-free generation by 2030, 100% by 2035
- 1,200 MW of conservation, including 225MW of peak capacity
- 1% of retail sales per year in energy efficiency savings, at least 25,000 customer participants annually, 25% limited income
- 375 MW of local solar, 200 MW of customer-sited
- 40 MW of local thermal storage
- REACH – market based approach for short term carbon reduction
- No new Austin Energy carbon generating assets
- Retire Decker Steam Units in 2020, 2021
- Close Austin Energy's share of Fayette at the end of 2022
- Commitment to equity evaluation for programs

Cross-cutting Strategies

Strategy 1: Green Jobs and Entrepreneurship

Strategy 2: Prioritize Local Community Initiatives

Strategy 3: Regional Collaboration

Strategy 4: Local Carbon Reduction Projects, Carbon Offsets and Carbon Dioxide Removal





Sustainable Buildings

Foundation Communities Lakeline Learning Center

Sustainable Buildings – 4 Goals to be achieved by 2030

1: Achieve net-zero carbon for all new buildings and reduce emissions by 25% for existing buildings while lowering all natural gas related emissions by 30%.

- Ensure benefits flow to low income communities and communities of color
- Enhance understanding of energy consumption
- Energy efficiency net zero carbon buildings
- Ensure equitable workforce development for emerging technologies

2: Reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions from refrigerant leakage by 25%.

- Capture and destroy old refrigerants
- Improve building codes to encourage cleaner refrigerants
- Create incentives for leak detection and repair
- Awareness and training for HVAC service providers
- Reduce the volume of refrigerants

3: Reduce the embodied carbon footprint of building materials used in local construction by 40%.

- Lead by example through design and construction standards
- Incentivize lower-carbon materials
- Educate stakeholders on materials best practices
- Stimulate decarbonization with local producers

4: Equitably achieve a community-wide water demand of 152,000 acre-feet per year.

- Engage residents in technological transitions and conservation programs
- Evaluate program participation criteria
- Reduce emissions at the water-energy nexus



Transportation and Land Use

Transportation and Land Use – 3 Goals to be achieved by 2030

1: 80% of new non-residential development is located within the city's activity centers and corridors.

- Plan for Complete Communities
- Work with employers on location and amenities
- Create mobility hubs
- Phase out free parking

2: Preserve and produce 135,000 housing units, including 60,000 affordable housing units, with 75% of new housing located within ½ mile of activity centers and corridors.

- Offer Immediate Affordable Housing Assistance
- Fund Affordable Housing
- Enhance community engagement for affordable housing

3: 50% of trips in Austin are made using public transit, biking, walking, carpooling, or avoided altogether by working from home.

- Expand and Improve Public Transportation
- Promote Free Transportation Options
- Transit Stations and Stops
- Prioritize Bicycle Network
- Bicycle Education and Training
- Sidewalks, Urban Trails and Crossings



Transportation Electrification

Transportation Electrification – 3 Goals to be achieved by 2030

1: 40% of total vehicle miles traveled in Austin are electrified, and electric vehicle ownership is culturally, geographically and economically diverse.

- Conduct an EV Community Needs Assessment
- Create Equitable Incentives for Buying and Leasing EVs
- Reduce Tolls for EV's in the Eastern Crescent
- Launch an e-Bike + Electric Car Sharing Program
- Electrify Public Sector Fleet Vehicles
- Electrify Private Sector Fleet Vehicles

2: Austin has a compelling and equitably distributed mix of level 1, 2, and DC fast charging to accommodate 40% of total vehicle miles traveled in the city.

- Create a Network of Low-cost, Accessible Charging Stations
- Incentivize Internet-Connected Smart Charging
- Adopt New Energy and Building Codes
- Expand Outreach to Underserved Groups

3: The Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos areas is a leader in transportation electrification by adopting policies and technologies that maximize economic and health benefits while supporting the growth of this emerging industry.

- Create a Regional Coalition to Support EV's
- Pilot and Adopt New Technology
- Prioritize a Just Transition
- Expand the EV-related Business Ecosystem



Hecho en Mexico, Montopolis Drive

Food and Product Consumption

Food and Product Consumption – 3 Goals to be achieved by 2030

1: Ensure all Austinites can access a food system that is community-driven, addresses food insecurity, prioritizes regenerative agriculture, supports dietary and health agency, prefers plant-based foods, and minimizes food waste.

- Support institutional food purchasing
- Promote and fund community-driven food retail programs
- Incentivize pro-health, pro-climate food choices
- Conduct a food waste root cause analysis

2: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from institutional, commercial, and government purchasing by at least 50%.

- Measure institutional lifecycle emissions
- Strengthen the City's sustainable purchasing program
- Strengthen non-City institutional purchasing programs
- Expand the City's Circular Economy Program

3: Aggressively pursue waste reduction, organics composting, and recycling to achieve a new zero-waste goal when the new Austin Resource Recovery Zero Waste Plan is adopted.

- Promote Reuse
- Create Eco-Hubs
- Create a workforce development program for the circular economy
- Offer incentives for products that have lower negative environmental and social impact
- Retool the bulk pick-up collection program



Bull Creek Preserve

Natural Systems

Natural Systems – 3 Goals to be achieved by 2030, 1 by 2050

1: Legally protect an additional 20,000 acres of carbon pools on natural lands and manage all new and existing natural areas (approx. 70,000 acres total), focusing on resilience.

- Protect Natural Lands
- Manage Natural Lands for Resilience
- Increase Community Access and Positive Perception of Public Land
- Protect Water Sources

2: Protect 500,000 acres of farmland from development in the 5-county region through legal protections and regenerative agriculture programs.

- Protect of Working Lands
- Reform Agricultural Tax Appraisals
- Support Farmers through Financial Assistance
- Provide Farmers with Resources
- Expand Composting
- Workforce Development for Farmers

3: Achieve at least 50% citywide tree canopy cover by 2050, focusing on increasing canopy equitably.

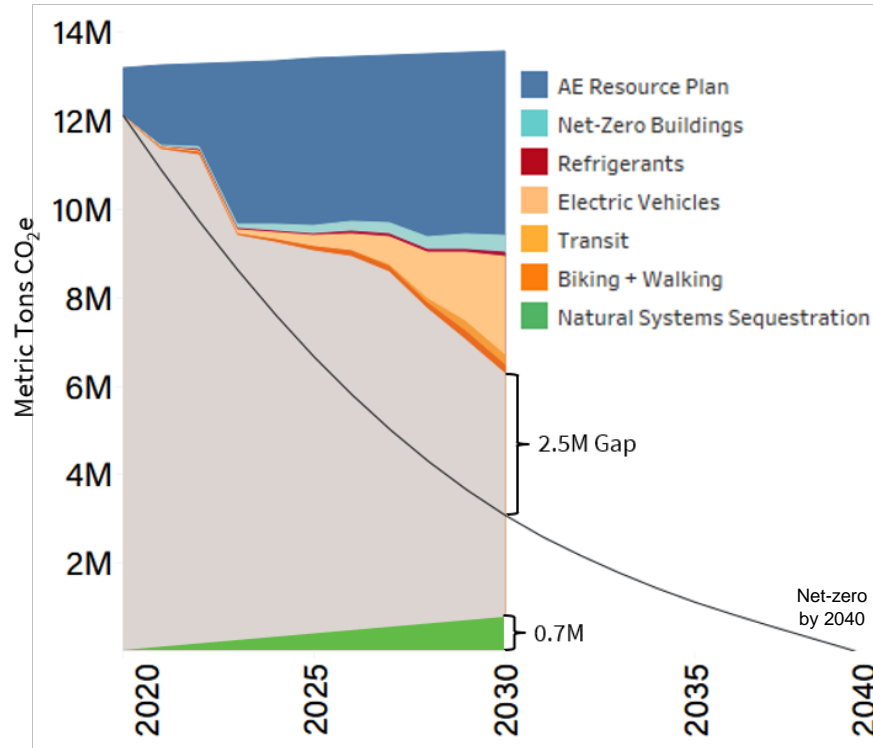
- Protect Canopy Cover on City Lands
- Tree Protections and Landscape Regulations
- Community Tree Planting
- Promote Tree Health and Resilience on Private Properties

4: Include all City-owned lands under a management plan that results in neutral or negative carbon emissions and maximizes community benefits.

- Prioritize Carbon Neutrality for Public Lands
- Reclaiming Public Space
- Community Stewardship
- Carbon Farming



2030 Projected Emissions Reductions



Emissions Reduction Strategies

| Buildings | Current | Goal |
|---|---------|------|
| Carbon Free % of AE Customer Load | 63% | 93% |
| Net-Zero Carbon Buildings | <1% | 25% |
| Refrigerant Leaks | - | -25% |
| Transportation | Current | Goal |
| Electric Vehicle Miles Traveled | 1% | 40% |
| % of Trips on Public Transit, Biking or Walking | 20% | 50% |

Thank you!
