




**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEMORANDUM**  
**#31-2024**

**DATE:** Aug. 26, 2024

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

**THROUGH:** Heather Geyer, City Manager   
Jason Loveland, Deputy City Manager 

**FROM:** Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning & Development   
Mara Owen, Sustainability Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Climate Action and Resilience Plan Update

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**PURPOSE**

To inform City Council on the progress of the Climate Action and Resilience Plan.

**BACKGROUND**

In April 2024, the City engaged Brendle Group to develop Northglenn's first Climate Action and Resilience Plan. It focuses on a data-driven approach with a strong emphasis on community capacity building. The plan aims to address both the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and enhancing the community's resilience to current and future climate impacts (adaptation). Additionally, the plan seeks to empower residents, businesses, and organizations to take action.

This update provides an overview of the work completed thus far, including a review of existing programs, an assessment of greenhouse gas inventory data, and an update on progress toward the plan's vision and goals. These efforts have been informed by extensive community and staff input gathered through Neighborhood Night events, the Sustainability Committee, a community survey in English and Spanish, and an internal City working group.

**NEXT STEPS**

The Brendle Group, in collaboration with staff, will conclude the remaining community input sessions and finalize the plan's vision and goals. Following this will come modeling and determining a methodology for prioritizing actions that align with these goals, with an emphasis on data-driven decisions and optimal use of resources for maximum value.

The next phase will focus on developing the implementation plan and creating tracking and accountability frameworks.

Upcoming Council touchpoints:

- November 2024: Present and review the final Vision and Goal Framework as well as the prioritized actions – focusing on "how we will get there" – to ensure they align with Council's expectations and strategic priorities.
- March 2025: Detailed review of the implementation plan, which will include the final set of actions, timelines, budgets, and staffing needs required to achieve the plan's objectives.

**BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS**

Brendle is being paid \$150,000 for this work, with money coming from the General Fund.

There are no other time implications.

Climate Action and Resilience Plan Update

Aug. 26, 2024

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

This is for informational purposes only.

**STAFF REFERENCE**

If Council Members have any questions, please contact Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning & Development, at [bsvoboda@northglenn.org](mailto:bsvoboda@northglenn.org) or 303.450.8937.

**ATTACHMENT**

1. Presentation



# Climate Action and Resilience Plan Council Update

Sarah Kaye (she/her) | Brendle Group, Lead Sustainability Planner |  
Northglenn Climate Plan Project Manager

August 26, 2024

# Agenda and Objectives

Objective: Provide a process update on Northglenn's Climate Action and Resilience Plan and confirm alignment with Council's strategic priorities.

## Agenda

- Project Background
- Work Completed to Date
- Next Steps

# Background

# Planning Process Overview

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
<b>Existing Conditions</b> Where have we been?	WG											
<b>Vision and Goals</b> Where do we want to go?			CE	SC CC	WG							
<b>Priority Actions</b> How will we get there?				CC								
<b>Defining Success</b> How will we be accountable?										SC	CE	CC

WG = working group

SC = sustainability committee

CE = community engagement

CC = City Council



# Northglenn's First-Ever Climate Action Plan

The Climate Action and Resilience Plan will identify a range of short- and long-term actions the city can execute to address both mitigation to **reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** and adaptation to **increase the resiliency of our community** to the current and future effects of climate change.

# Where We've Been





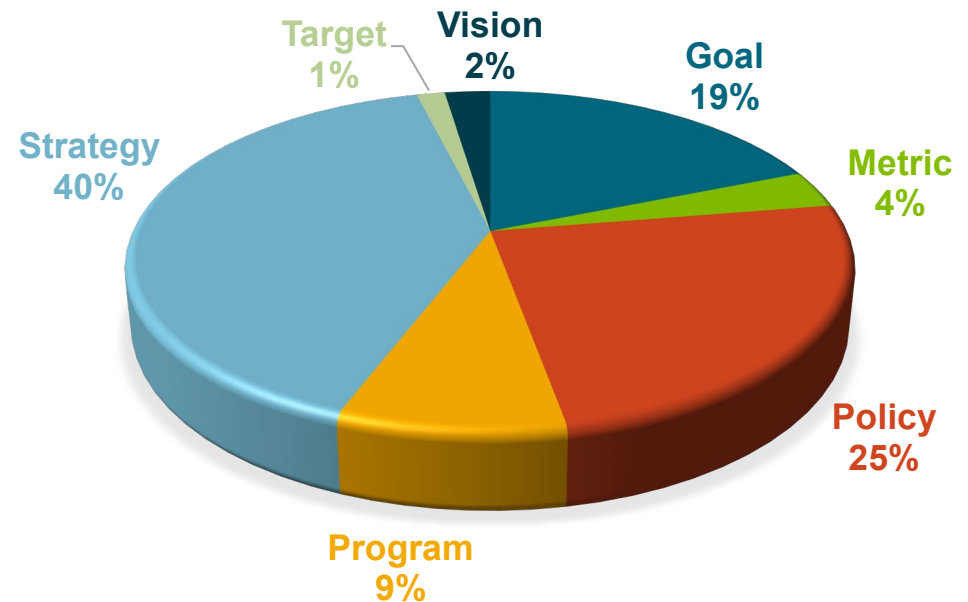
# Where We've Been



2017 Analysis

## Key Context

- Reviewed 12 City of Northglenn plans, five City webpages, and relevant City codes and ordinances
- Catalogued 500+ visions, goals, strategies, programs, policies, metrics, and targets
  - 200+ strategies
  - 100+ policies
  - 50 programs

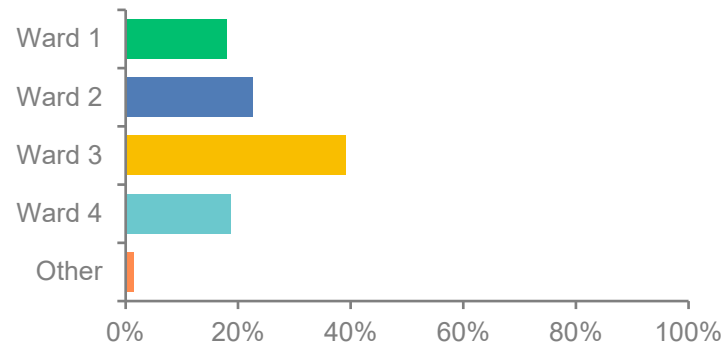


2024 Analysis (in progress)

# Summary of Efforts to Date

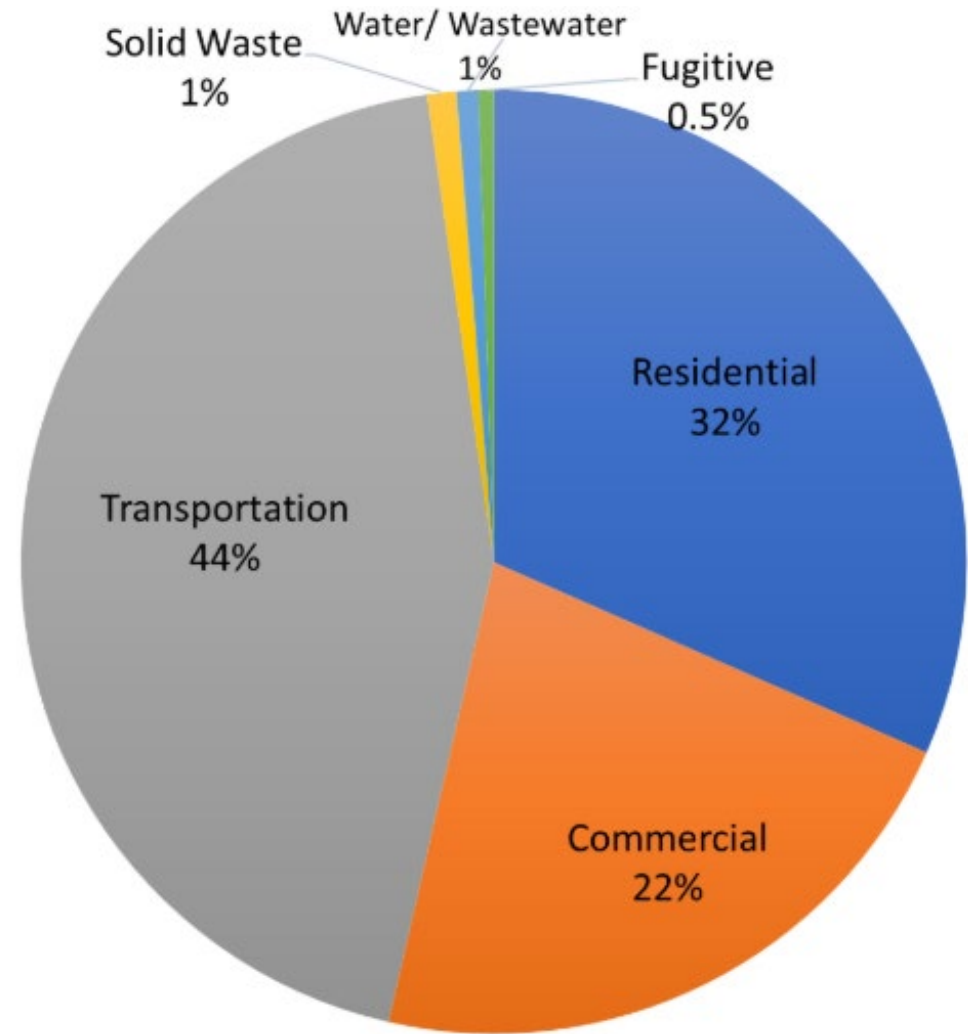
# Public Outreach

- **5** In person community events – 635 unique points of feedback
- **2** Community surveys (close August 30) – 146 responses so far



# GHG Emissions

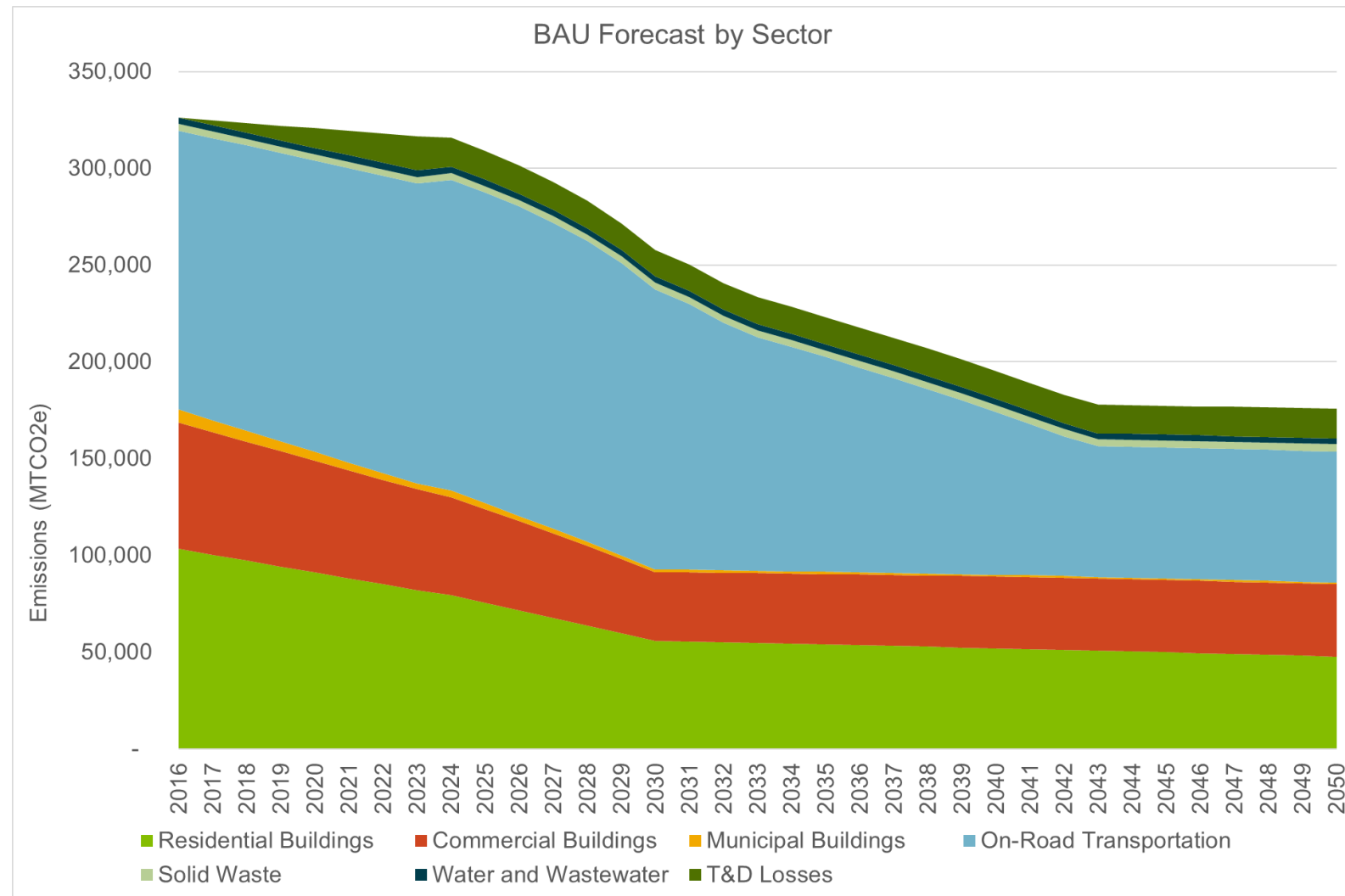
Total Community Emissions (2016): 327,087



Source: Inventory of Community and Municipal GHG Emissions (2019)

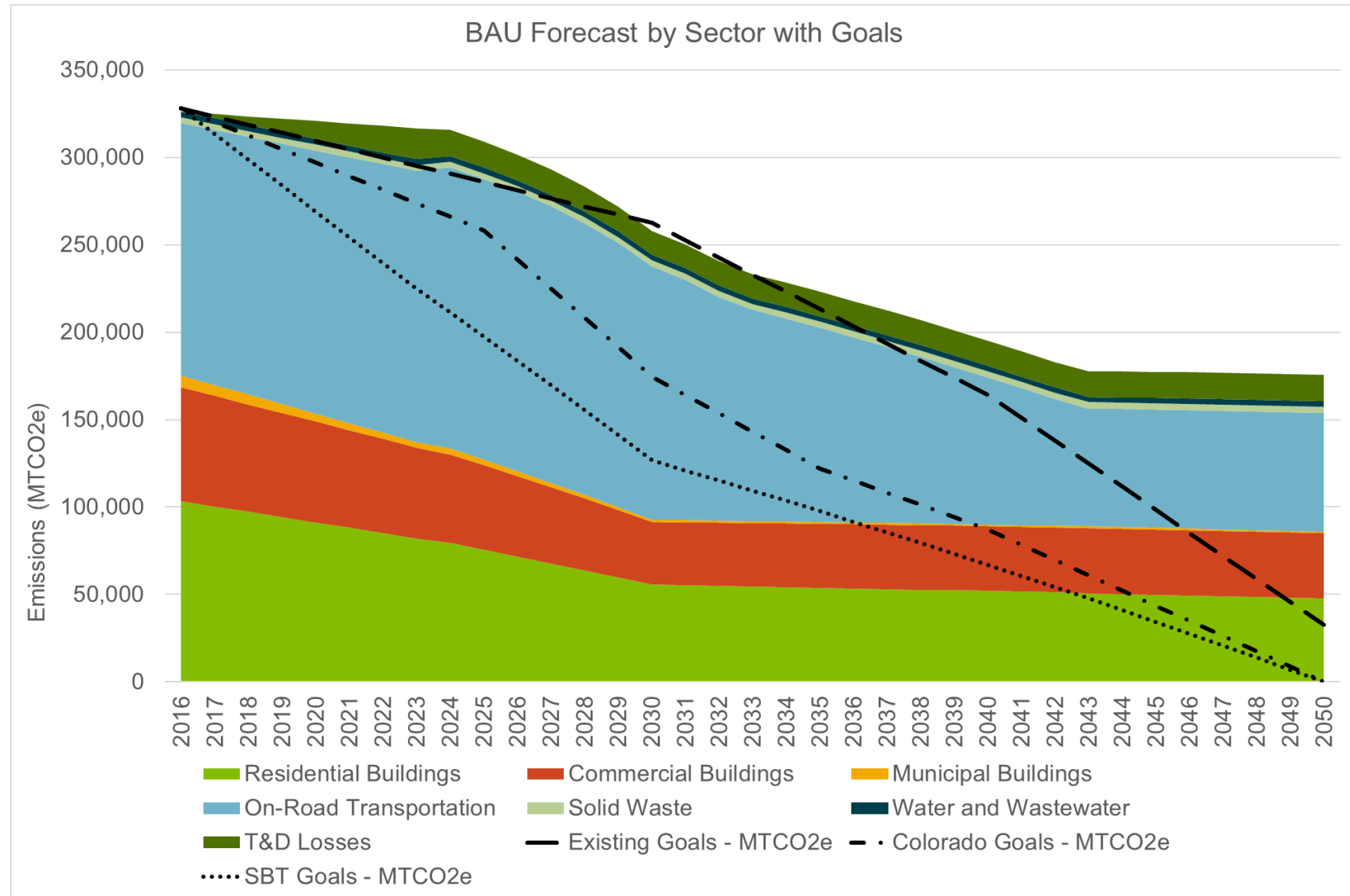
# Business as Usual Forecast

- Population grows slowly
- Commercial employment grows modestly
- Municipal energy trends align with historic trends
- Xcel Energy achieves carbon-free electricity by 2050
- EV sales grow in alignment with state-mandated sales



# Setting Our Sights on GHG Emission Reductions

- Northglenn Sustainability Plan Goals
  - Baseline: 2016
  - 2030: 20% reduction
  - 2040: 50% reduction
  - 2050: 90% reduction
- State of Colorado GHG Reduction Plan Goals
  - Baseline: 2005
  - 2030: 50%
  - 2040: 75% reduction
  - 2050: 100% reduction
- Science Based Targets
  - Baseline: 2018
  - 2030: 63% reduction
  - 2050: 100% reduction



# Defining Resilience and Adaptive Capacity

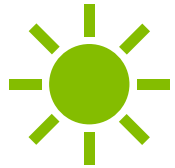


A resilient community can better withstand the impacts of climate change



Adaptive capacity is the ability to respond to and rebound from the impacts of climate change hazards

# Resilience to What?



## **Drought and Excessive Heat**

90F+



## **Flood**

Urban flooding, stream flooding



## **Severe Cold Weather Storms**

Blizzard, heavy snow, extreme cold



## **Severe Warm Weather Storms**

Lightning, hail, wind



# Climate Action and Resilience Efforts in Northglenn Are...

Aspirational

Inspirational

Integrated

Strategic

Regionally  
Aligned

Inclusive  
and Just

# Priority Topic Areas and Opportunities



## Transportation

Accelerated EV adoption and enhanced regional collaboration on transportation demand



## Building Energy Use

Building weatherization and deep energy retrofits and electrification of building systems and equipment



## Water

One Water approach



## Waste

Waste through lens of resilience (reduction, circular economy)



## Community Connection

Building community capacity and connectedness

# Next Steps

# Overall Next Steps

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Finalize a vision and goal framework with staff input

Prioritize mitigation and resilience solutions

Model impact of select solutions

Develop implementation plans for priority solutions

Finalize plan and transition into implementation

# Upcoming Council Touchpoints

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November 2024: Present and review the final Vision and Goal Framework as well as the prioritized actions—focusing on "how we will get there"—to ensure they align with the Council's expectations and strategic priorities.



March 2025: Detailed review of the implementation plan, which will include the final set of actions, timelines, budgets, and staffing needs required to achieve the plan's objectives.

Thank You!