

AGENDA
STUDY SESSION MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MEETING
CITY OF LAKEWOOD, COLORADO
VIRTUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2024
7:00 PM

To watch the Council meeting live, please use either one of the following links:
City of Lakewood Website: [Lakewood.org/CouncilVideos](https://lakewood.org/CouncilVideos)
Lakewood Speaks: Lakewoodspeaks.org

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In accordance with City Council Policy 5.1(A), all virtual meeting participants are advised that technological issues, whether caused by the City's equipment or the user's equipment, shall not be grounds for canceling a public meeting.

How to Connect to Provide Public Comment: Online participants may post written comments of any length to LakewoodSpeaks.org, an online forum for public comments.

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL

ITEM 3 – EXTREME WEATHER SHELTERING UPDATE

ITEM 4 – COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

ITEM 5 – COMMITTEE REPORTS

ITEM 6 – ADJOURNMENT

STAFF MEMO

DATE OF MEETING: NOVEMBER 18, 2024 / AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Travis Parker, Chief of the Sustainability & Community Development Branch
Subject: **Extreme Weather Sheltering Update**

SUMMARY STATEMENT: A virtual presentation will be delivered by staff of the Housing and Thriving Communities Division of the Department of Sustainability and Community Development. The presentation will inform the Council about the City's severe weather sheltering operations for the 2024-2025 weather season.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Lakewood provides severe weather sheltering by declaration when weather systems increase risk to unhoused residents. This presentation will discuss operational aspects of the City's plan for severe weather sheltering.

BUDGETARY IMPACTS: N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: N/A

ALTERNATIVES: N/A

PUBLIC OUTREACH: This item has been promoted through the regular communication channels to be considered by the Lakewood City Council.

NEXT STEPS: The virtual presentation will be delivered via Zoom with a question and answer period for the Council, following the presentation.

ATTACHMENTS: None

REVIEWED BY: Kathleen E. Hodgson, City Manager
Benjamin B. Goldstein, Deputy City Manager
Alison McKenney Brown, City Attorney

STAFF MEMO

DATE OF MEETING: NOVEMBER 18, 2024 / AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Travis Parker, Chief of the Sustainability & Community Development Branch
Subject: **Community Sustainability Update**

SUMMARY STATEMENT: At the November 18, 2024 City Council Study Session, staff from the Community Sustainability, Climate, and Zero Waste division will provide an update on the implementation of the City of Lakewood’s Sustainability Plan and priorities for 2025. The update will include a summary of current and future projects, programs, and policies.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In 2015, City Council adopted the City of Lakewood Sustainability Plan. The Sustainability Plan is a policy document that includes goals, targets, and strategies to guide the community in strengthening and integrating its social fabric, local economy, and natural environment, while reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. Since the adoption of the Sustainability Plan in 2015, staff has provided Annual Reports to highlight key implementation efforts and document progress towards sustainability goals and targets. The 2023 Sustainability Plan Annual Report can be [accessed here](#).

In 2024, staff continued to implement equitable programs and policies related to greenhouse gas emissions reduction, water conservation, energy efficiency, climate resiliency, sustainable development, transportation electrification, circularity and zero waste, and community building and engagement. This year, two new key staff positions were added to further advance the City of Lakewood’s sustainability goals:

- Zero Waste & Circularity Planner: Create community-facing and internal programs, partnerships, and policies which further Lakewood towards zero waste and strengthen our participation in the circular economy
- Sustainable Operations Specialist (Operational Services department): Implement sustainability programs and best practices in municipal operations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and climate change impacts and demonstrate the City’s commitment and leadership towards community sustainability.

During the Study Session, staff will present an update on current projects and policies, 2025 work priorities, existing local and regional grants and funding being utilized to support sustainability, and upcoming 2025 sustainability-related discussions planned with City Council.

BUDGETARY IMPACTS: No budgetary impacts are anticipated with the Study Session. Staff will discuss how existing local and regional grants and funding opportunities will be used to advance work priorities in 2025.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Because this is a Study Session, no additional action is needed from City Council.

ALTERNATIVES: None

PUBLIC OUTREACH: This item has been promoted through the regular communication channels to be considered by the Lakewood City Council.

NEXT STEPS: Staff will continue implementing strategies that support the City’s sustainability goals, while incorporating feedback from the City Council study session and the community.

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Sustainability Slides for City Council Study Session on 11-18-2024

REVIEWED BY: Kathleen E. Hodgson, City Manager
Benjamin B. Goldstein, Deputy City Manager
Alison McKenney Brown, City Attorney



SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION

2024 UPDATE

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

NOVEMBER 18, 2024



Overview

Background

- Division Overview
- Sustainability Plan 2015
- Comprehensive Plan 2040
- Revenue Sources

Sustainability Division Work Areas

- Climate & Sustainable Development
- Zero Waste
- Community Sustainability

Sustainability in Lakewood

Protect our ecosystems, biological diversity, air and water quality

Foster social wellbeing, economic health, and community resilience

Reduce GHG emissions on a scale that aligns with recommendations from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Understand and prepare for impacts of climate change



Community Sustainability, Climate, and Zero Waste



Sustainability
Manager

Building
Performance



Building
Performance

C & D Technician

Lakewood Sustainability Plan

Lakewood's 2015 Sustainability Plan was one of the first major projects of the Sustainability Division. Our team is actively using this plan to guide our work today and are still working towards relevant goals and metrics set therein.

2025 marks the plan's 10-year anniversary!



Lakewood 2015 Sustainability Plan Progress

Adopted Targets

- On Track: 13
- Not on Track: 12
- Undetermined or Insufficient Data: 3

Implementation Strategies

- Completed/Significant Progress: 38
- Underway: 16
- Not started: 4

Updated sustainability targets and strategies will be integrated into 2040 Comprehensive Plan



Full report available at
<https://www.lakewood.org/Government/Departments/Sustainability-and-Community-Development/Sustainability/Plans-and-Reports>

Lakewood Comprehensive Plan Update

The Planning Dept has led the charge for Lakewood's Comprehensive Plan update. The Sustainability Division has been involved in collaboratively drafting goals, strategies, providing revisions, and attending AG meetings to hear direct feedback from community members.

This level of involvement will ensure the new Comp Plan **enables critical areas of sustainability work 15 years into the future.**



Sustainability & Climate Actions a guiding principle for the entire Comp Plan.

Sustainability Funding

Climate Protection and Sustainability Revenue

- \$221,000 raised to date, >\$250,000 per year anticipated

Lakewood Bag Fee Revenue

- \$692,000 raised to date, >\$250,000 per year anticipated

Federal & Regional Grants

- \$5,000,000 Department of Energy grant: Building Performance Program
- \$194,050 Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant: Rec Center EV Charging

Regional Funding Opportunities

- Extended Producer Responsibility program, State of Colorado, Xcel Energy, Inflation Reduction Act

Upcoming Dates

2025 Sustainability Discussions with City Council

Feb 1 - Council Retreat w/ Sustainability Discussion

Mar 3 – Building Energy Benchmarking Presentation

Mar 17 – Comprehensive Plan/Zoning Code Study Session

Apr 28 – Building Energy Benchmarking Public Hearing

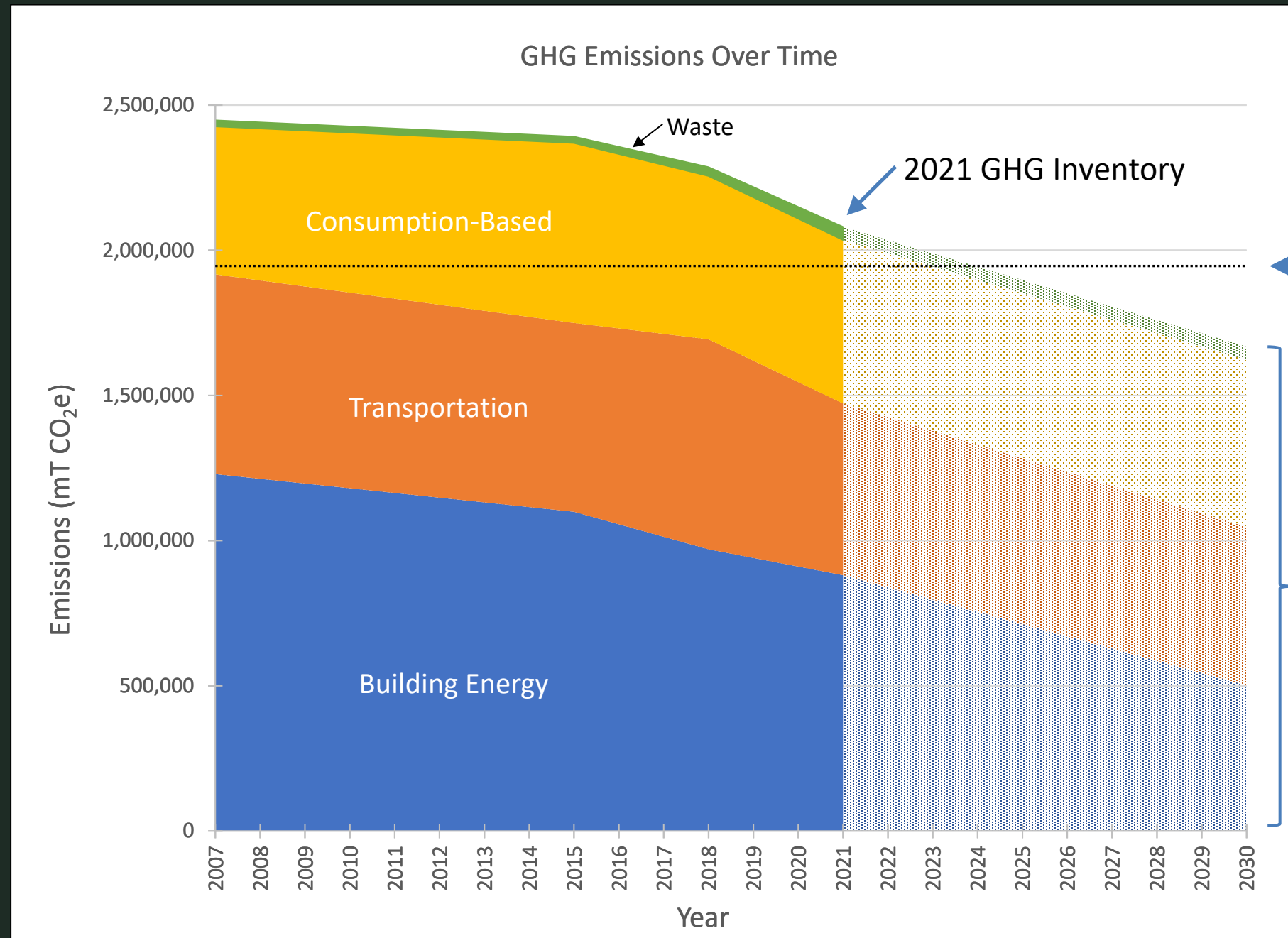
May 12 – Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing

Jun 9 – Zoning Code Public Hearing



Climate

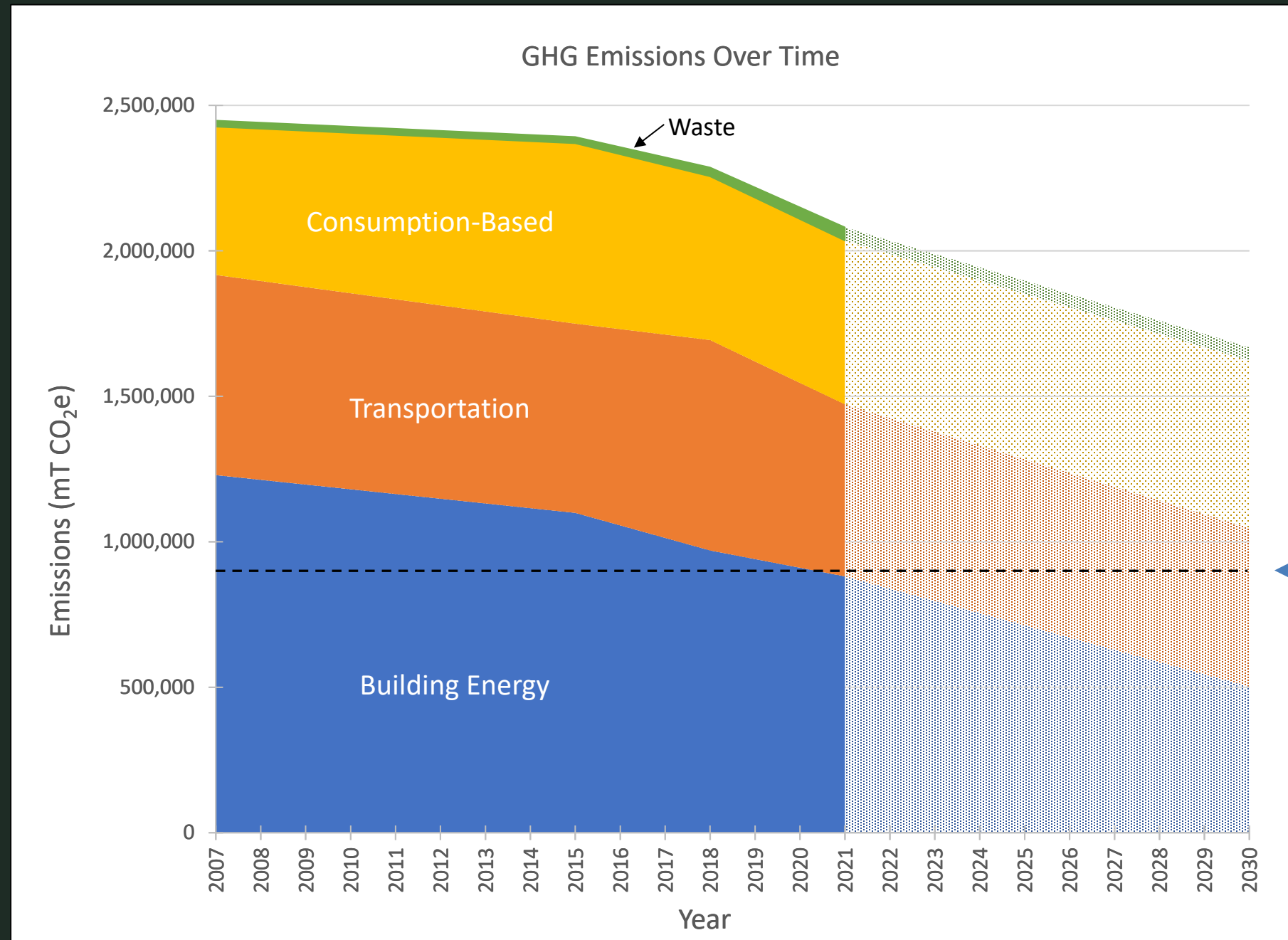
Climate: GHG Emissions



2015 Sustainability Plan Goal: Reduce GHG emissions by 20% below 2007 levels by 2025
Status: On Track

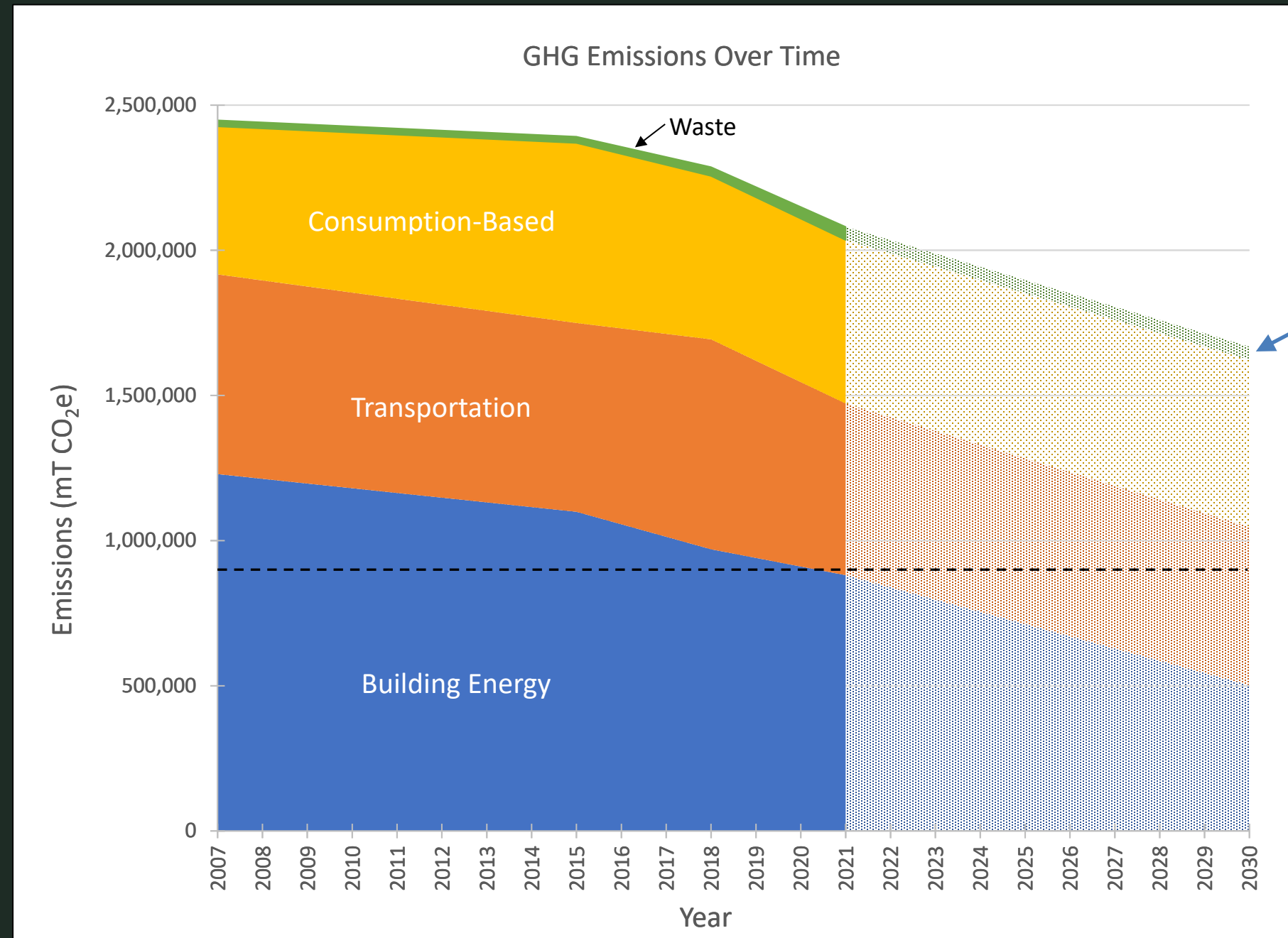
Forecasted Business as Usual (BAU) 2030 emissions

Climate: GHG Emissions



2030 Science-Based Target: Reduce communitywide GHG emissions by 61% from 2018 levels (9% reduction 2018 → 2021)

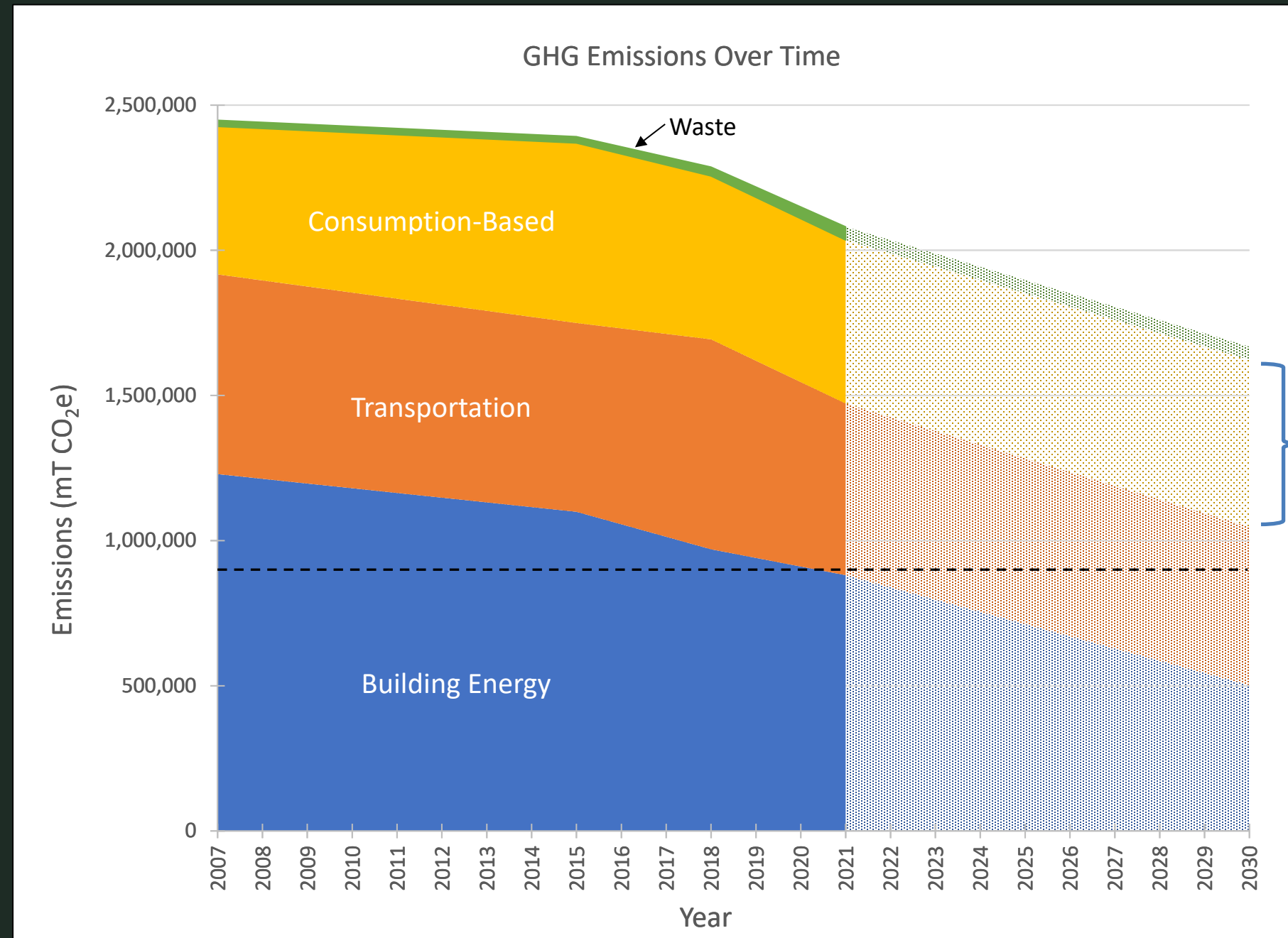
Climate: GHG Emissions



Waste Emissions Reduction Strategies

- Construction & Demolition Recycling
- Organic Waste Programs
- Community Engagement & Education
- Extended Producer Responsibility

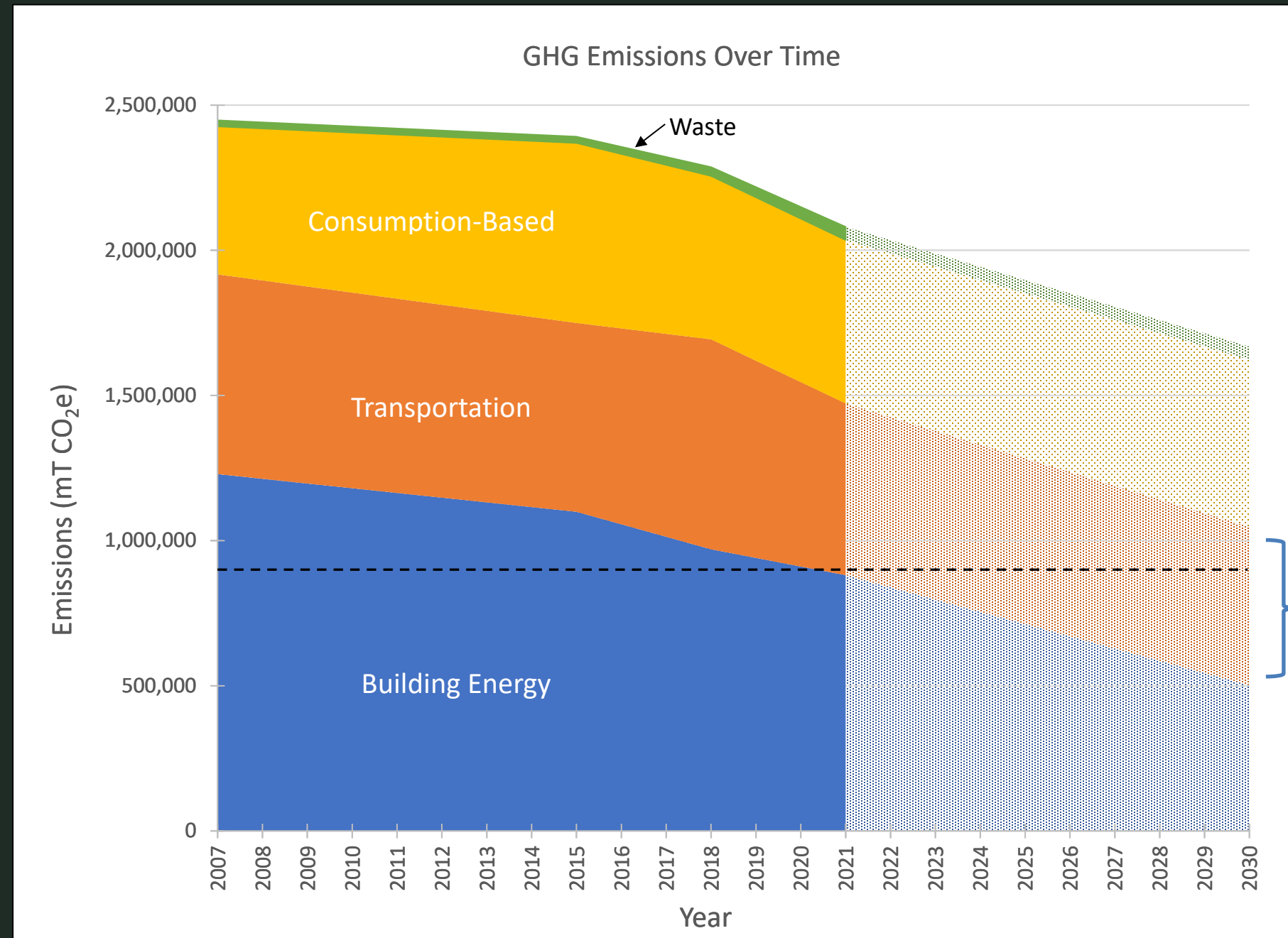
Climate: GHG Emissions



Consumption Emissions Reduction Strategies

- Sustainable Development Standards
- Community Education

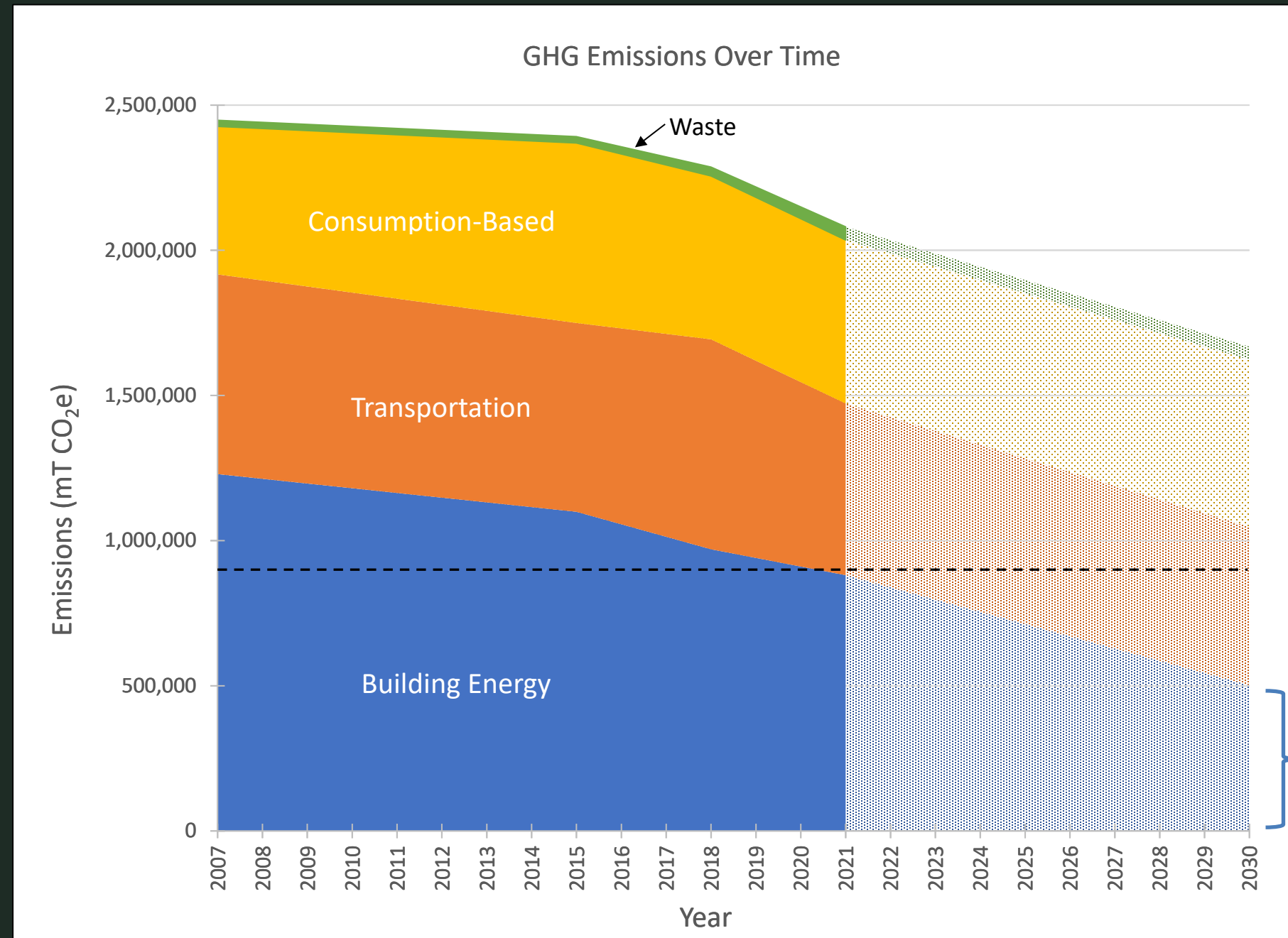
Climate: GHG Emissions



Transportation Emissions Reduction Strategies

- EV Charging Infrastructure
- Updated Zoning and Building Codes
- EV Work Plan
- Bicycle Plan update
- Community Engagement
- Colorado EV plan

Climate: GHG Emissions



Building Emissions Reduction Strategies

- Sustainable Development Standards
- Updated Zoning and Building Codes
- Building Performance Program for Largest Buildings
- Local, Regional, Federal Incentives
- Municipal GHG Inventory
- Community Engagement
- Xcel Decarbonization

Climate: Municipal Building Energy

Building Energy

- 63% renewable electricity powering municipal facilities, parks, and sites
- Energy Audit and Performance Contract (2019-2022)
- Facilities Conditions Assessment Report (2023)
- Continued LED lighting retrofits

Coming in 2025

- Whitlock solar project (\$931,700 state grant)
- Public Works campus plan
- Municipal GHG Inventory
- Planning for 2026 Civic Center HVAC upgrades, rooftop solar



Climate: Large Building Energy

Building Performance Program

- \$5 million DOE grant to develop and implement energy benchmarking and building performance standard (BPS) program for Lakewood's largest buildings
 - *\$660,000 local workforce development*
 - *\$367,000 equity support and resources*
 - *+ 2 FTE for 8 years*
- 1.25 million mT CO₂e emissions avoided by 2050
- 2025 Phase 1: Energy Benchmarking policy
- 2026-2027 Phase 2: BPS policy development
- Lakewood Together page: www.lakewood.org/bpp



Climate: Commercial Building Energy

Small Business Energy Campaign

- Over 350 Lakewood small businesses visited
- Provided no cost energy assessments and LED lighting upgrades
- 2 million kwh of electricity saved
- \$300,000 utility bill savings
- Funded by Xcel Energy Partners in Energy



Climate: Residential Building Energy

Local and Regional Energy Efficiency Incentives

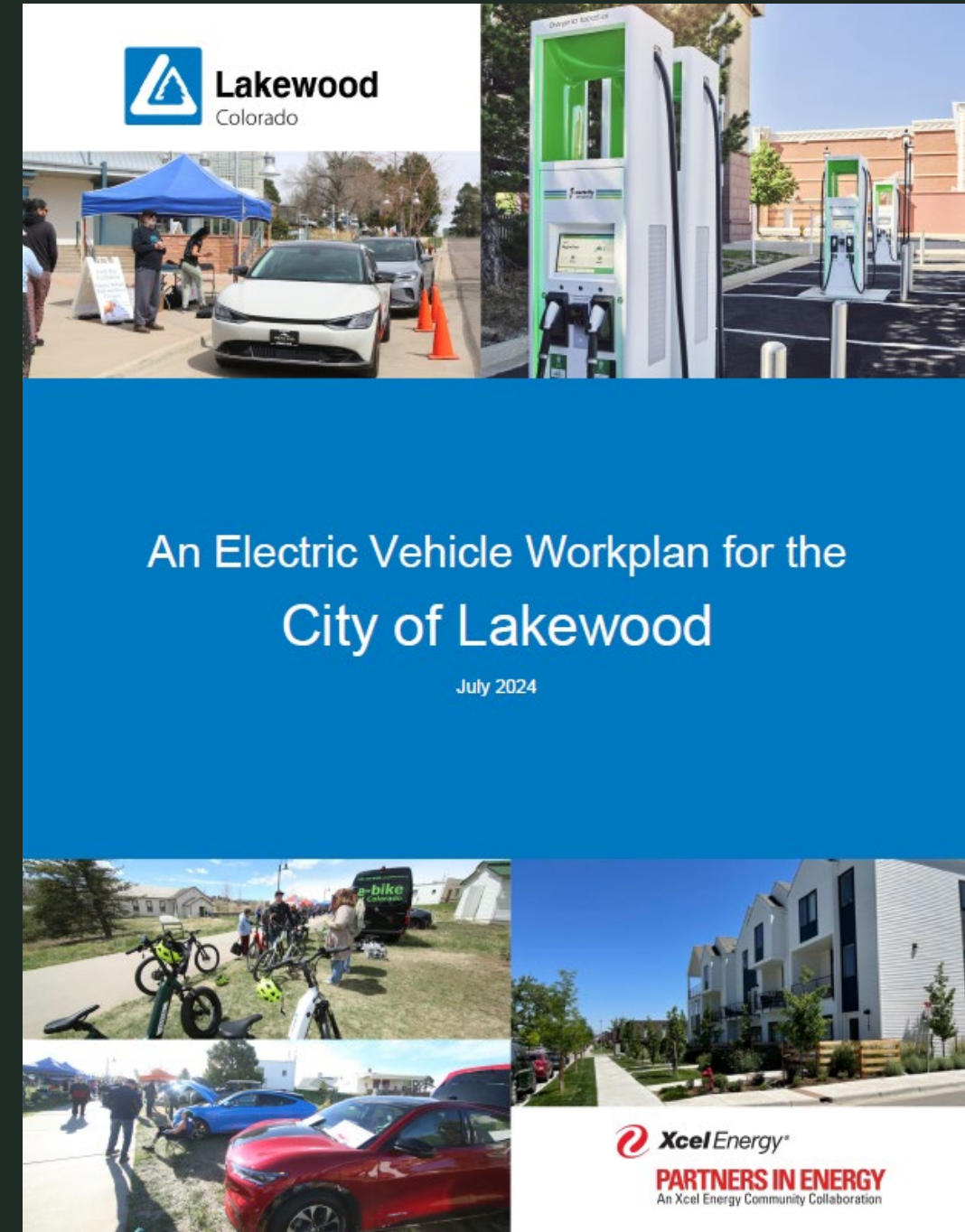
- 2024: connect residents with existing incentives
- Historic investments/incentives available in 2025 for energy efficiency and electrification
 - Decarbonize DRCOG - \$200 million
 - Xcel Energy Clean Heat Plan - \$440 million
 - Colorado Energy Office Home Energy Rebate Program - \$140 million for LMI households
- Regional and partner collaboration
- Lakewood incentive program (Climate Fund)



Climate: Transportation

Electric Vehicle Work Plan

- Roadmap for operations and policies to support EV adoption
- 18-month implementation plan through Sep 2025 with short-term strategies
- Long-term implementation strategies (2030)
- 3 focus areas:
 - Fleet electrification
 - Public facility charging
 - Plans, Policies, and Standards



Climate: Transportation

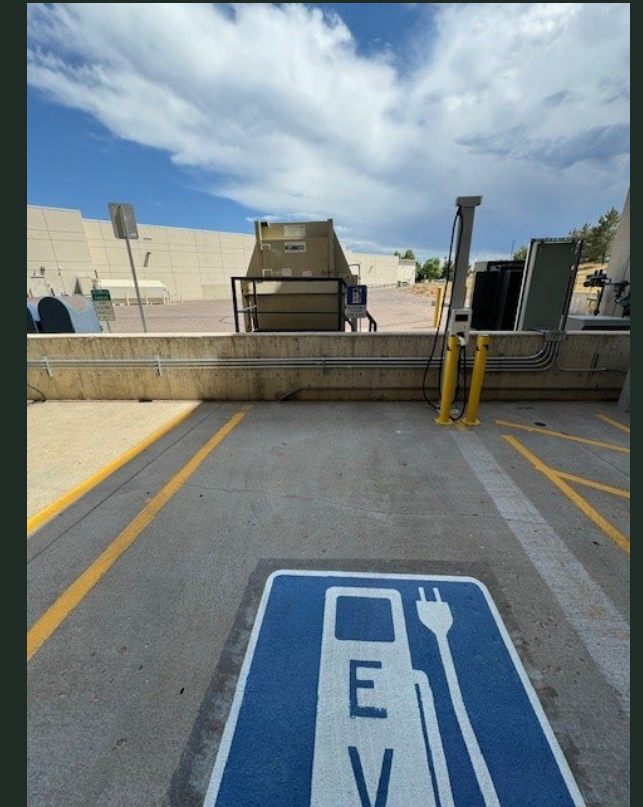
Existing policies and projects

- Fleet electrification and chargers
- Public Xcel EV Fast Charging @ Civic Center
- Sustainable Development Standards
- Zoning and Building Code



Coming in 2025 (Transportation Electrification)

- Level 2 EV charging at rec centers (\$194,050 EECBG grant)
- Additional fleet charging locations
- Zoning code update



Climate: Transportation

Bicycle Plan Update

- Update 2018 Bicycle Plan
- Safe, accessible bicycle transportation system for people of all ages and abilities
- Identify bicycle facility improvements for a more consistent and connected network

Coming in 2025 (Bicycle Improvements)

- Evaluate streets being repaved to stripe for future buffered or separated bike lanes
- Identify opportunities to separate current buffered bike lanes
- Improve bicycle safety at intersection of Garrison and Alameda



A graphic for the Lakewood Bicycle Plan. At the top left is a logo featuring a green bicycle and a blue square with a white triangle. To the right of the logo, the text reads "LAKEWOOD BICYCLE PLAN" in green. Below this, a white banner with black text says "WE WANT YOUR INPUT!". The background of the graphic is a collage of images: a cyclist riding on a road, a white sign with a bicycle icon and the text "STATE LAW MOTORISTS MUST GIVE 3 FT CLEARANCE", and a green-painted bike lane with a white bicycle icon. At the bottom, a green banner contains the text "LakewoodTogether.org/BikePlanUpdate" in white.

Climate: Community Resilience

Climate Hazard & Social Vulnerability Study

- Implementation of Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Identifies areas of increased climate vulnerability risks in Lakewood, equity focus
- Informs future strategies and priorities
- Funded by \$135,000 FEMA grant
- Lakewood Together page: LakewoodTogether.org/ClimateRisks



Climate: Water Conservation

Outdoor Water Conservation Program (2023-2024)

- Estimated water savings: 3.7 million gallons
 - Discounted Garden in a Box kits
 - Free sprinkler evaluations
 - \$500 lawn replacement incentive
- Outdoor Water Resource Guide (English, Spanish)
- 2025 Program
 - Continued community incentives
 - Additional HOA consultation support
 - \$70,000 in 2025 budget + grant rollover

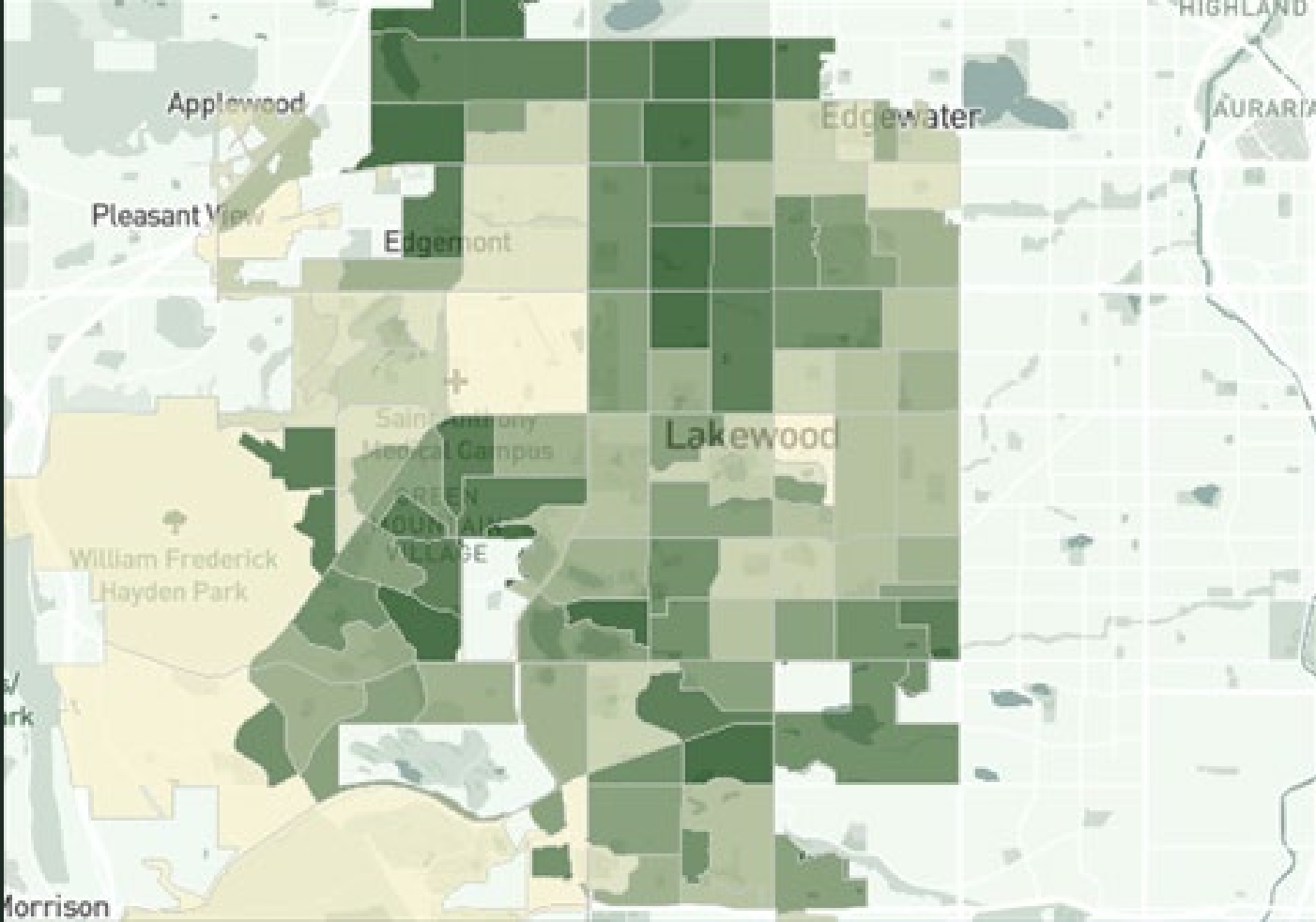
Zoning Code and Comp Plan

- Integrated low-water landscaping language



Climate: Tree Canopy

- Tree canopy assessment completed in 2022
- 2011: 7.8% coverage 2021: 18% coverage
- 400 residential trees sold in 2024
- Parks staff focusing on increase tree plantings at parks and ROWs, maintaining existing tree health
- 2025: 500 discounted trees available for residents

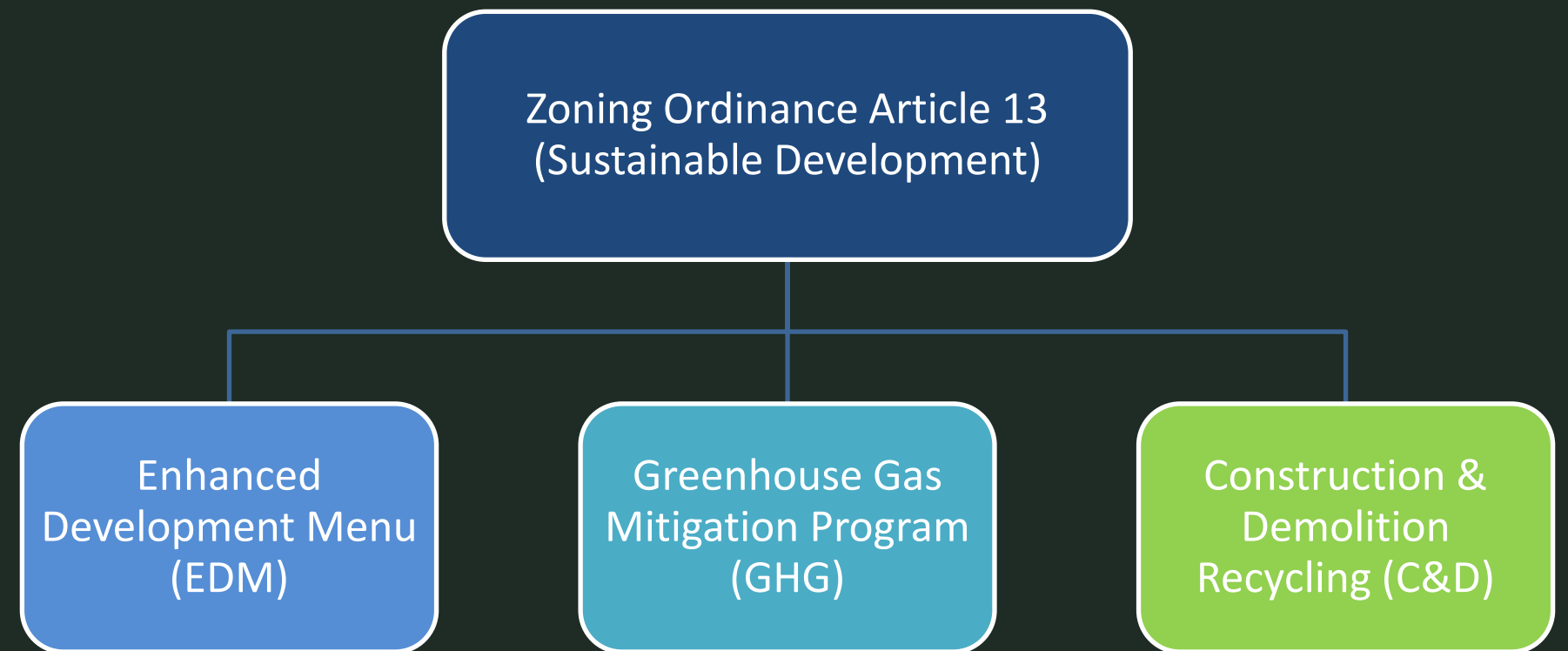




Sustainable Development

Sustainable Development

- Updated Sustainable Development Standards adopted in 2022 (Zoning Ordinance)
- Ensure new development reflects community vision and priorities
- Community benefits:
 - increased local amenities
 - reduced GHG emissions and air pollutants
 - utility bill savings
 - increased waste diversion



Sustainable Development: Enhanced Development Menu

- Point-based menu based on square footage
- Developers choose from selection of sustainability features
- Designed to be flexible, context-specific



EFFICIENT OUTDOOR LIGHTING: 26



WATERWISE LANDSCAPES: 25



COMPOST & RECYCLING SERVICE: 21



ABOVE-CODE EV CHARGING: 19



URBAN HEAT ISLAND MITIGATION: 16



BIKE AMENITIES: 15



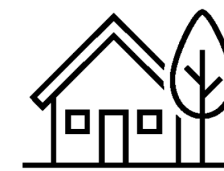
POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE: 10



ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDINGS: 10

Applicability

New Construction and Major Remodels/Additions:



Single-Family
& Duplex



Multi-Family*
over 2,500 sf &
3+ Lot Subdivisions



Non-Residential*
over 2,500 sf

Sustainable Development: Enhanced Development Menu

Solid Ground Supportive Housing project




- 40-unit permanent supportive housing for people transitioning from homelessness
- On-site support: mental health, substance use disorders, job training
- Enhanced Development Menu (35 points)
 - On-Site Renewable Energy, Energy Efficient Outdoor Lighting
 - Above and beyond: On-site food production, EV charging, electric heating and cooling



Sustainable Development: GHG Mitigation Program

- Establishes a GHG performance standard that aligns estimated emissions from new development with city's GHG reduction goals
- Mitigation measures can be used to reduce projected GHG emissions:
 - Renewable energy
 - Building electrification
 - EV charging
 - Recycling & compost collection
- Estimated 880,000 pounds of CO₂e mitigated annually since 2023

Applicability

	New Construction	Remodel/Addition
 Single-Family & Duplex/Attached	✓	✗
 Multi-Family	✓	✓
 Non-Residential	✓	✓

Sustainable Development: C&D Supplemental Standards

Why have standards and what are they?

Updates







- Transition to Green Halo
- Applicant resource development

Future

- Continuous improvement of GH
- Better data and compliance
- Resources to prevent illegal dumping
- Collaboration with other jurisdictions







Existing Code Applicability

New Construction over 2,500 square feet and all Demolition:

		
		
Individual Single-Family & Duplex	Multi-Family & 3+ Lot Subdivisions	Non-Residential

Supplemental Standards Applicability

New Construction over 2,500 square feet and all Demolition:

		
		
Individual Single-Family & Duplex	Multi-Family & 3+ Lot Subdivisions	Non-Residential



Sustainable Development: Climate Fund

The Climate Protection & Sustainability Fund (Climate Fund)

- Climate Fund revenues support projects for:
 - sustainability of the built environment
 - climate mitigation and adaptation,
 - waste reduction projects
- Fees-in-lieu of compliance (EDM /GHG) or forfeited deposits (C&D)
- Projected cumulative revenue by end of 2025 - \$350,000
- Proposed projects are evaluated for emissions reduction potential, community resilience, environmental justice, and equity

Coming in 2025

- Programs being evaluated: clean energy rebates/incentives, tree canopy enhancement

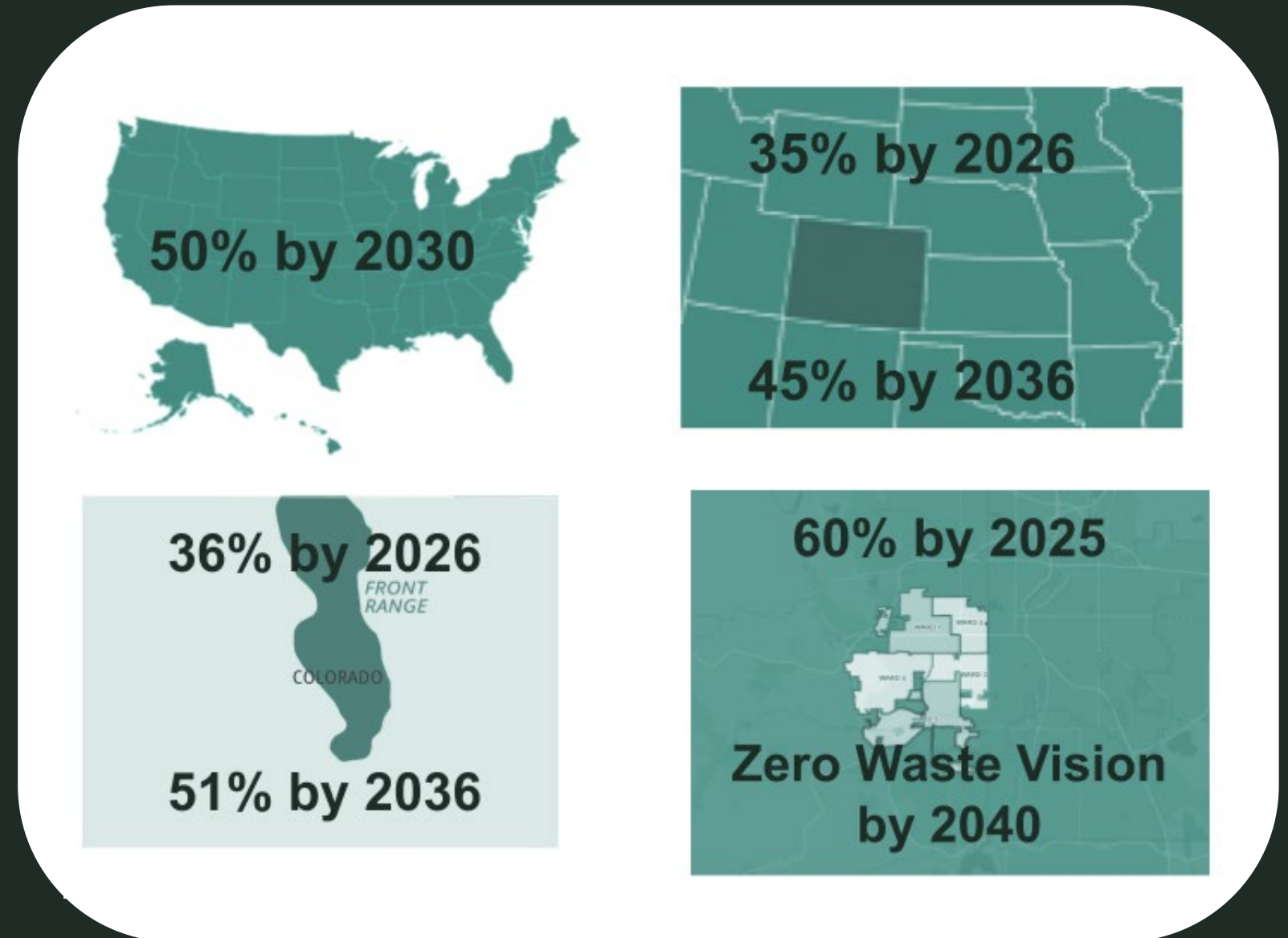


Zero Waste & Circularity

Zero Waste & Circularity: Overview

Why was this position created?

1. Ensure we are compliant with recent waste related legislation;
 2. Take advantage of grant dollars;
 3. Develop policy to keep the pace with Front Range and resort towns; and
 4. Make progress on the Zero Waste targets set forth in the Sustainability Plan and Comp Plan.
- 50%-60% diversion goals at federal, state, regional, & local level
 - US stagnates at 34%
 - Front Range at 16%



Zero Waste & Circularity: Goals & Work Areas

Goal

"Become a Zero Waste community and support a thriving circular economy by minimizing waste generation and maximizing waste diversion through reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, and recovery activities."

Strategies

1. Education & Outreach - Increase Understanding of Waste Related Programs
2. Resi. Recycling - Improve and Expand Residential Recycling Services
3. Organics & C&D - Diversion of Environmentally Impactful Waste Streams
4. Municipal ZW Program - Strengthen the City's Municipal Zero Waste Program
5. Commercial Waste Diversion - Requirements, Supportive Programs, and Enforcement
6. Circular Economy - Participate in our Regional Circular Economy



1. General Education & Outreach

Updates

- Central Waste Resources on Website (9 pages)
- Master database of recycling, reuse, and composting outlets in our area (400+ records)
- Recycling Center Tours

Future

- Goals page & tracking against targets
- Turn master database into online map
- Speaking engagements
- EPR related outreach & ed.



Trash & Recycling
Trash and recycling collection & drop off centers



Organics
Yard waste and food scrap composting & collection



Hard to Recycle
Household hazardous waste and bulky items



C&D Debris
Construction & demolition recycling & reuse requirements



Business Resources
Complying with the plastic bag & foam ban



Hauler Licensing
Apply for a Lakewood waste hauling license



Litter Clean Ups
Litter & neighborhood clean up events



Food Rescue
Donating edible food to local organizations



Waste Goals
Striving for community circularity & Zero Waste

2. Residential Recycling: Now

Updates

- **Access to Free Residential Recycling**
 - CO's extended producer responsibility (EPR) law will provide access to free recycling for all CO residents including MF homes via a fund paid by producers of paper and packaged goods.
- **Provided Feedback on EPR Program Plan**
 - Consultation sessions, in person meetings, distilling other open communities feedback
- **Spearheading EPR Preparedness Group**
 - Coordinated a small planning group of cities and counties
 - Hosting large group disc. sessions for open market communities



2. Residential Recycling: Future

Future

- **Enhanced hauler licensing** - likely
 - Increase requirements to help alleviate known open system pain points
 - Internal process changes to make hauler licensing more transparent and collaborative
- **Universal Recycling Ordinance** - potential
 - For multi-family developments
 - EPR removes cost barrier
- **Hauler Contracting** - potential
 - can be presented again if there is appetite from community



3. Targeting Organics: Pilots

Updates

- Designing 3 pilot programs using PPRA (bag fee) funding:
 1. Food scrap drop offs and/or coupons to increase participation in the existing drop offs
 2. Zero Waste Support Program for MF's and Businesses
 3. EcoCycle Green Star Schools Program

Future

- Determine costs, admin process, recruit participants
- Implementation
- Preferred hauler for opt-in curbside composting (not default)



3. Targeting Organics: Beyond Composting

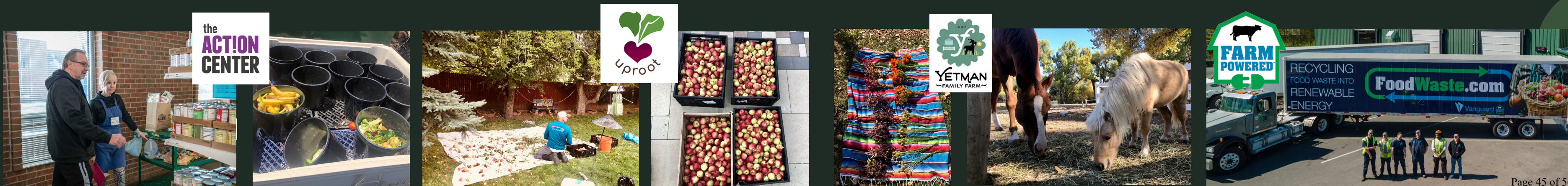
Updates

Exploring opportunities to go higher on food recovery hierarchy:

1. Food rescue
2. Gleaning
3. Feeding animals
4. Anaerobic Digestion – Vanguard Renewables

Future

Support these activities equal to composting through ed & outreach. MF and business Zero Waste Support Program, MZWP



4. Municipal Zero Waste Program

Updates

- Zero Waste Events
 - HLBP – Consulting & Piloting
 - 100% diversion at cider pressings
 - PF material guidance
 - Reconditioned recycling & compost bins
 - Presenting events assessments Jan '25
 - Planning Dept – Proving Ground
 - Pilot reusables kits
 - 96% diversion at company picnic



4. Municipal Zero Waste Program

Future

- **Reusables**
 - Expand use beyond Planning dept.
- **Revamp Zero Waste Program Toolkit**
 - Signage, SOP, employee training video, comprehension quiz on Lakewood University
 - Finalize and distribute zero waste program toolkit by America Recycles Day 2025

More in the Future

- **Performance Management**
 - Waste Audits
 - Right Sizing Assessments and contract amendments



5. Commercial Waste Diversion

Updates

Ensuring ZeroWaste is Planned for in Design

- Design Reviews and Tools for Planners
 - Waste planning & storage memos
 - Waste generation and storage calculator
 - Zero Waste Design Guidelines - rights purchased
- Zoning Code Updates
 - Updated waste enclosure reqs.
 - EDM updates to zero waste section

Future

- Refine tools and guides, publish for broader internal and external use



6. Participation in Regional Circular Economy

The circular economy is based on three principles, driven by design:

1. Eliminate waste and pollution
2. Circulate products and materials (at their highest value)
3. Regenerate nature

-Ellen MacArthur Foundation

CE principles can be applied at the product, supply chain, or system level.



6. Participation in Regional Circular Economy

Updates

- **Regional Involvement:**
 - Recycle Colorado Member
 - 5x RC committees: C&D, Plastics Circularity, Composting, Policy, Reuse & Refill
 - Organizer for USCC's Circularity of Compost and Compostables Strategy
 - Met w. CEDC and CO Circular Communities Enterprise
 - Presented at C&D Policy Toolkit Roadshow
 - Informed CU's Municipal Circular Procurement Playbook
 - USGBC Circular Econ Design for Built Env't Training



6. Participation in Regional Circular Economy

Future

- **Baselining:** generation, diversion, capture & participation rates, and CE business activities

Further in the Future

- **Circular Procurement:** Lakewood adopts a Circular Procurement Policy
- **Infrastructure:** Small scale compost sites, attracting C&D recycling & reuse outlets
- **Shared economy:** Shared tool libraries, makerspaces, repair workshops
- **Circular Building:** deconstruction incentives, decon. workforce dev training, EDM updates



Community Sustainability

Community Sustainability

Sustainable Neighborhoods Program

- Resident-driven certification program focused on neighborhood sustainability priorities
- 10 Sustainable Neighborhoods
- Since 2012:
 - 1,260+ projects, events and workshops.
 - 100,461+ participants engaged.
- 2024 common neighborhood themes: waste reduction, water conservation, native landscape

Coming in 2025/2026:

- Hope to expand program and add 1-2 new neighborhoods



Community Sustainability

Earth Day

- Annual event is a collaboration between departments and features music and entertainment, food trucks, vendors, community displays, kids' art activities and more
- 2024 Earth Day Celebration was rainy and snowy but 700 residents, volunteers and vendors still attended
- 2025 Earth Day Celebration: Sat, April 26 at Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park!





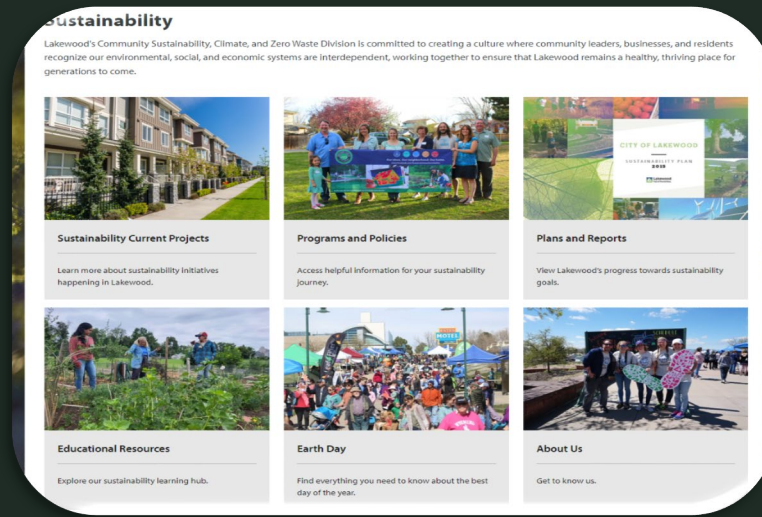
Connecting with the Community



Email us at sustainability@lakewood.org



In Person
(Tabling, advisory groups, SNP events)



Website
(maintain over 20 pages of resources)



Social Media
(Facebook)



Newsletters
(Monthly)



Thank you

Learn | Engage | Connect

www.lakewood.org/sustainability

sustainability@lakewood.org