



# Climate and Sustainability

*Management Update*

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# Our Commitment to Climate Action

Funded through Proposition C: **\$5 Million voter-approved bond**

## Objective # 1

Address the specific impacts of the global climate crisis as they relate to the **urban desert environment and vulnerable populations** of the Chihuahuan Desert.

## Objective # 2

Ensure consistent and transparent collaboration inclusive of all interested stakeholders and community members assuring **tangible results and appropriate public accountability.**

## Objective # 3

Pursue a **wide range of policy vehicles and funding resources** to advance the City of El Paso a leader in addressing the global climate crisis while balancing affordability and equity concerns for the community of El Paso.



# Climate + Sustainability

PAST TO PRESENT

*Efforts to address climate change and reduce the City of El Paso's carbon footprint date back to more than two decades.*



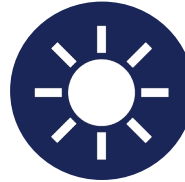
# Climate + Sustainability

PRESENT TO FUTURE

The momentum is **NOW!!**



Municipal Energy  
CFT



Solarize  
Campaign  
Launch



Innovation  
Factory  
Launch



Establish New  
Office of Climate  
+ Sustainability

Spring 2021

Summer 2021

Fall 2021

Early 2022

Late 2022

2023

Congresswoman  
Escobar's Climate  
Crisis Advisory  
Committee

Facility Energy  
Audits

Sun Metro Grant  
For Electric Lift  
Vehicles

Community  
Progress Bond  
Prop C





# Community Climate Action Plan

El Paso needs a citywide Climate Action and Adaptation Plan centered on **equity and community vulnerabilities** to provide a roadmap toward **sustainability and resilience**.

The hired consultant will develop a **Community Wide Climate Action and Adaptation** plan with the following principles:

- Community Centered Plan
- Describe local Climate Change Impacts
- Develop Community Wide GHG inventories with projections
- Provide Climate Strategies
- Be equitable and consider those most vulnerable

- Provide best practices to implement plan
- Define strategies for use by city government
- Plan should be a reflection of the unique fabric of El Paso
- Bilingual living document
- Model for West Texas



# What is a Climate Action Plan (CAP)?

- A strategic framework for **reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change.**
- A CAP includes measures **aligned with existing municipal priorities** to reduce GHG emissions and face current and future climate hazards.

## 4 Critical Components:

1. Community-wide **inventory** of existing emissions;
2. a **resilience and adaptation** focus;
3. prioritized mitigation and adaptation **actions**;
4. **funding** mechanisms; and **implementation** pathway.

## Benefits

- **Health benefits:** improved air quality as a consequence of reducing GHG emissions will positively impact respiratory illnesses; heat mitigation strategies will result in better quality of life.
- **Equity:** **opportunity to use the CAP as a decision-making and implementation tool to address inequality in El Paso.**
- **Economic development:** a comprehensive CAP would enable access to funding opportunities for strategic projects, including important infrastructure and emergency response projects for El Paso.

# Scope of Work

- A successful plan will identify a **clear and tactical path** for El Paso
- This plan is recommended to be **reviewed and refreshed regularly** and revisited at least every 5 years.

- Climate Perceptions Assessment
- Existing Community Asset Scan

## 1. Community Engagement

## 2. Local Impact Assessment

- Urban Desert Environment
- Vulnerable Populations
- Economic Shifts

- Emissions
- Energy, Water, Air
- Natural Resources

## 3. Baseline Data Capture

## 4. Climate Risks & Vulnerabilities

- Neighborhood
- Commercial
- Public Sector
- Prioritizing Equity

- Adaptation
- Mitigation
- Equity
- Resilience
- Sustainability

## 5. Climate Strategies

## 6. Short Term Implementable Actions

- Projects that can be executed before 2030
- Aligned with 30 by 2030
- Leveraging IRA and other federal support

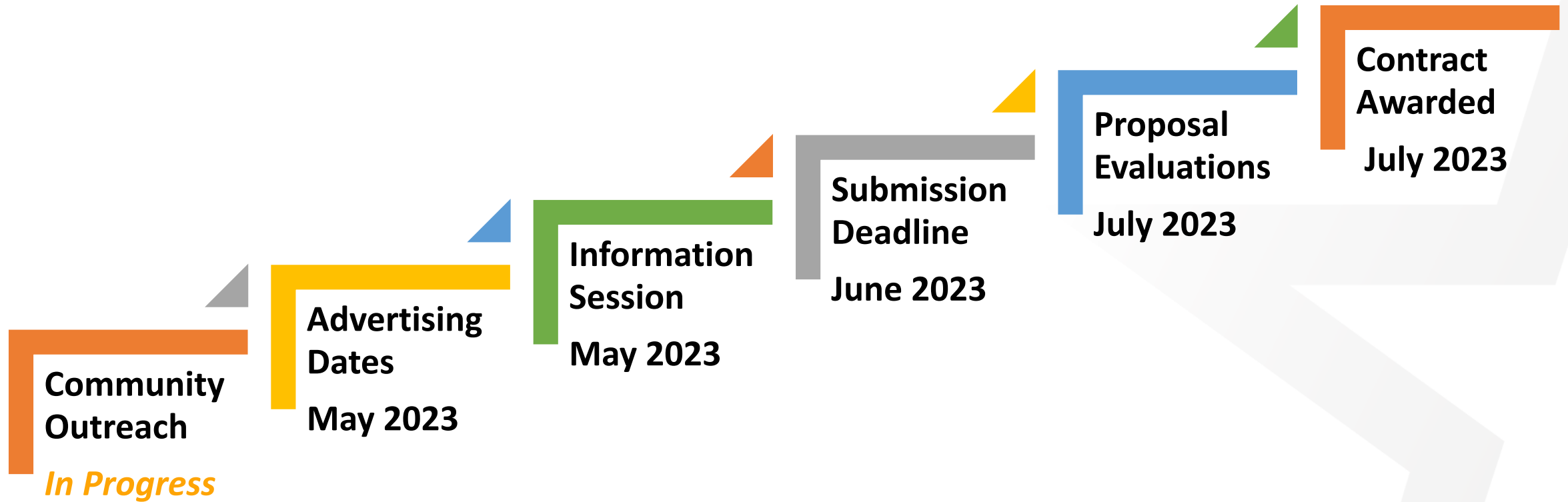
- GHG Reduction Targets
- Renewable Energy Benchmarks
- Climate Mitigation Investment Plan

## 7. Long Term Implementation plan

- Infrastructure Resilience Investment Plan
- Long Term Cost Benefit Analysis



# Proposed Timeline





# Proposed Timeline

**Planning Kick  
Off**  
**Fall 2023**

**1st Interim  
Report**  
**Spring 2024**

**2nd Interim  
Report**  
**Fall 2024**

**Final Report:  
Call to Action**  
**4/1/2025**



# Next Steps

## Outreach and Engagement

- Engage with community stakeholders to identify **high-level vision / mission for the work.**

## Climate Action + Disaster Mitigation Plan

- Engage best in class consulting team
- Leverage **Communities of Excellence** Partnerships
- Both Plans would be refreshed annually and revisited triennially

## Driving efficient and equitable climate solutions

- Develop **tactical, measurable actions** in tandem to the strategy
- Minimize redundancies across departments and partners, maximizing resources and impact
- Equitably support the most vulnerable frontline communities that are often under-resourced for adaptation efforts.



## PERFORMANCE OFFICE

- Transition to paperless processes
- Hybrid work model (cuts emissions, increases production)
- Remote/online training

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

- Energy-saving improvements to facilities
- Sustainability/renewable energy projects
- Green grants awarded
- Solar farm at El Paso Airport
- Advanced Manufacturing District
- Creating more green spaces
- Microgrid research

## SUN METRO

- LIFT paratransit services transitioning to electronic buses
- Buses powered by CNG
- Streetcars (Electric vehicles, park-and-rides, decreasing carbon emissions in downtown)

## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

- Recycling programs
- Citizen Collection Stations

## STREETS AND MAINTENANCE

- Streetlight upgrades to LED

## PARKS AND RECREATION

- Building more parks
- More trees
- Reclaimed water usage at parks
- Recycled water usage at waterparks

## MCAD

- Art projects made with recycled materials, Sunflower building mural

## IT

- Investment in efficient technology to promote remote/mobile work
- Online tech training
- Online help desk

## MISSION



Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community

## VISION



Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government



## VALUES

Integrity, **R**espect, **E**xcellence,  
**A**ccountability, **P**eople