



Land Use, Housing & Transportation Committee

Office of Sustainability
4/19/22



OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY

City Council Climate Leadership

Reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions 45% by 2030, achieve net zero emissions by 2050; adapt and improve resilience to local climate impacts (Net Zero Resolution-No. 2020-R024)

Develop and implement RVAgreen 2050 plan; educate residents and businesses on climate crisis; full community participation (Net Zero Resolution-No. 2020-R024)

Office of Sustainability; resources for RVAgreen 2050 plan implementation (Climate Emergency Resolution-No. 2021-R049)

Office of Sustainability

VISION: The Office of Sustainability envisions a future where all Richmonders, regardless of their identity or neighborhood, thrive in a climate-resilient and climate-neutral community.

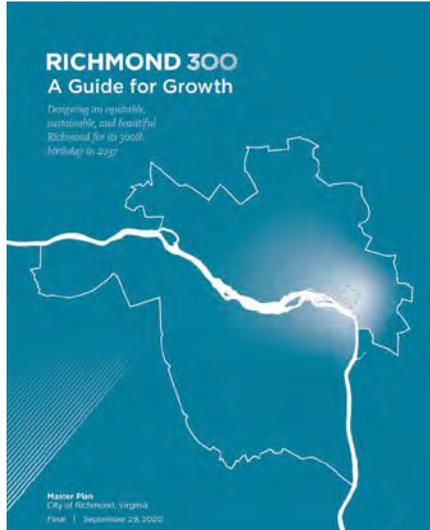
MISSION: The mission of the Office of Sustainability is to enhance the quality of life for all residents by making Richmond equitable, healthy, and resilient.

DESCRIPTION: The primary responsibilities of the Office of Sustainability are to strategically plan, coordinate, and implement the City's climate action, climate resilience and climate equity initiatives; evaluate the initiatives and component parts to enhance effectiveness; serve as a champion to inform, engage and empower equitable climate action and resilience initiatives within city government and across the community; and operate as the designated point of public accountability for progress on these initiatives.

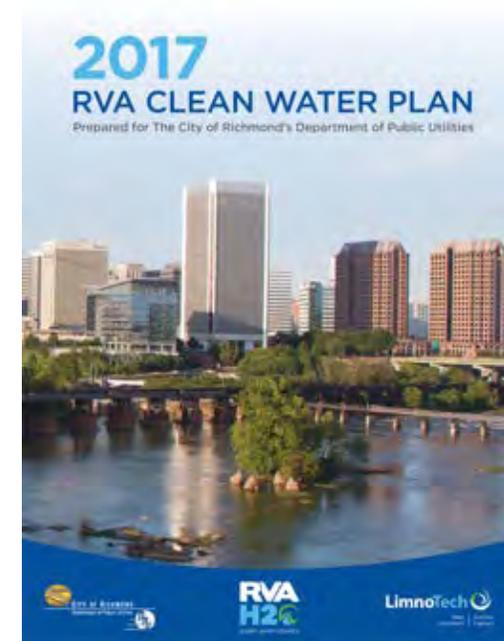
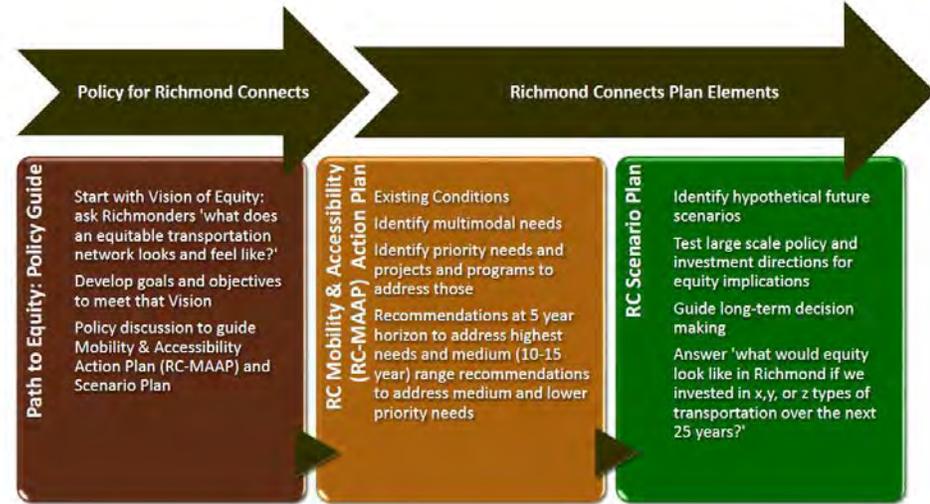
RVAgreen 2050 = Equity Centered Planning



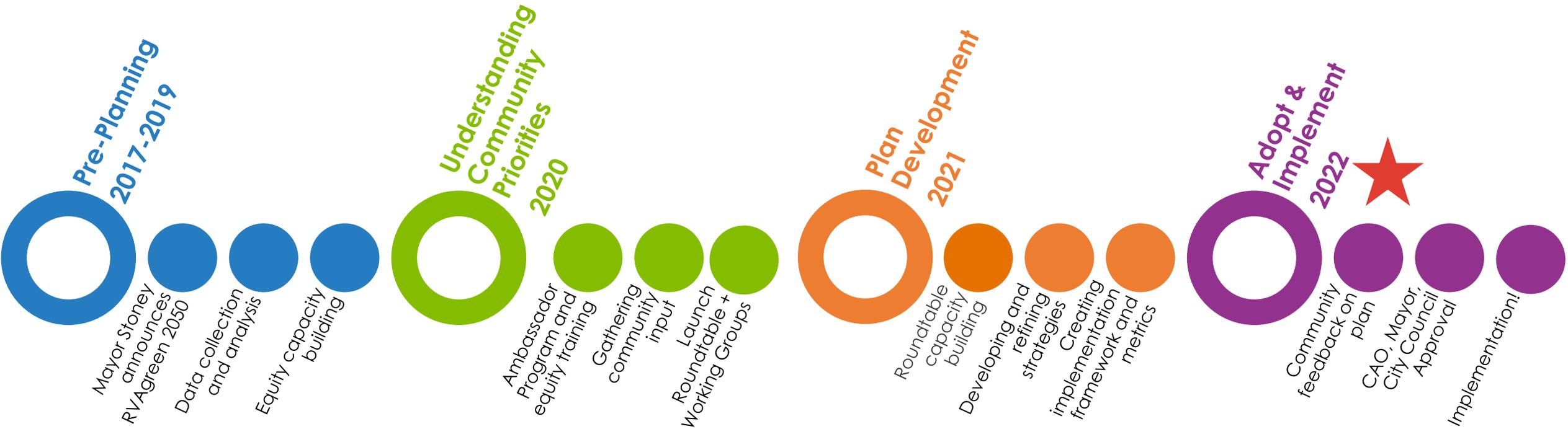
RVAgreen 2050 = Coordinated Planning



City of Richmond RVAgreen 2050



RVAgreen 2050 Planning Process-Where Are We?



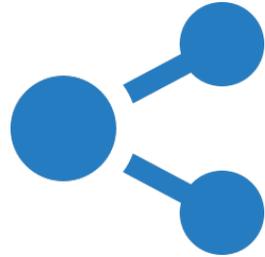
RVAgreen 2050 Engagement & Activity

September 2018 – April 2022

100 events

78 presentations
17 information tables
3 “walk and talks”
1 workshop

81 in Richmond
13 national gatherings



2,480 @RVAgreen2050 followers

1,130 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS

450 AVERAGE MONTHLY UNIQUE WEBSITE VISITORS

\$212,500 in grants & support

Technical assistance

Peer and expert knowledge exchanges



over 5,770 people engaged

RVAgreen 2050

DRAFT

Climate Equity Action Plan 2030

DRAFT | April 2022



Climate Equity Action Plan 2030



*Equitable climate action for a
healthy and resilient Richmond*

RVAgreen 2050 *By the Numbers*

1

Vision

All Richmonders, regardless of their identity or neighborhood, thrive in a climate-resilient and climate-neutral community

2

Main goals to achieve

45% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, below 2008 levels, and net zero emissions by 2050

Prepare for, adapt, and improve the community's resilience to local climate impacts

5

Pathways to get us there

-  Buildings & Energy
-  Community
-  Environment
-  Transportation & Mobility
-  Waste Reduction & Recovery

7

Community priorities to honor

-  Racial Equity & Environmental Justice
-  Government Accountability
-  Community Wealth
-  Affordable Housing
-  Beautiful & Safe Neighborhoods
-  Health & Well-being
-  Equitable Engagement & Communications

49

Prioritized strategies

Co-created by the Office of Sustainability, five technical Working Groups, and the Racial Equity & Environmental Justice Roundtable across all five Pathways to achieve our goals

12

Outcomes the community desires

- Cleaner and more efficient buildings
- Engaged and involved community
- Improved air quality
- Advanced green economy
- Increased support for climate action and resilience
- More green space and trees
- Lower greenhouse gas emissions
- Increased heat resilience
- Increased flood resilience
- Climate-ready community
- Less landfill waste
- Cleaner and more efficient transportation

Climate Equity Action Plan 2030 Pathways, Objectives, and Strategies



BUILDINGS & ENERGY	
Objective 1: Achieve climate neutrality and increase resilience in government buildings, infrastructure, and operations.	
BE-1.1	Municipal Energy Efficiency Program: Develop a program to achieve the energy efficiency goals of RVAgreen 2050 and Richmond 300.
BE-1.2	Municipal Clean Energy and Net Zero Construction: Incorporate measures toward the goal of converting all city buildings to clean energy by 2050.
BE-1.3	Municipal Climate Impact Mapping: Establish a protocol for tracking greenhouse gas emissions and planning for climate impacts.
BE-1.4	Municipal Resilient Infrastructure Assessment: Conduct a climate vulnerability and risk assessment of all city property (including buildings and parcels). Identify and prioritize properties for specific resilience projects.
Objective 2: Maximize energy efficiency, performance and resilience in all existing buildings.	
BE-2.1	Residential Energy Burden: Implement measures to reduce the energy burden of Richmond's most vulnerable communities and improve residential resilience to climate change.
BE-2.2	Commercial Energy Efficiency Programs: Develop policies, incentives, and financing mechanisms to improve commercial energy efficiency; offer assistance and technical expertise to those that are financially challenged and facilitate workforce development
BE-2.3	Construction & Energy Code Enforcement: Prioritize the most recent energy requirements in all new construction and site plan approvals.
Objective 3: Ensure all Richmonders have equitable access to affordable and renewable clean energy.	
BE-3.1	Solar Energy Education & Outreach: Provide equitable education and outreach to make homes and small businesses healthy, safe, and affordable through solar installations, focusing on frontline communities reducing disproportionately high energy burden in these neighborhoods.
BE-3.2	Solar Installation Incentives and Access: Encourage solar installations through the removal of zoning restrictions, incentivizing opportunities, and increasing funding for microgrids.
BE-3.3	Clean Energy Workforce Development: Establish training programs, apprenticeships, and a conservation corps/job placement program in low-income and diverse neighborhoods to build capacity for jobs related to solar installation and maintenance, weatherization upgrades, and energy efficiency auditing (e.g., prison to solar training).
Objective 4: Achieve climate neutrality and maximize resilience in all new buildings.	
BE-4.1	Net-Zero Energy Design: Develop and require builders to incorporate measures to advance net-zero energy design and green building in all new buildings.
BE-4.2	Resilient Design Guidelines: Develop Resilient Design Guidelines and require builders to incorporate design measures to reflect a changing climate, increased precipitation and flooding in concert with a public education campaign to convey the benefits of adaptive and resilient buildings.

Climate Equity Action Plan 2030 Pathways, Objectives, and Strategies



COMMUNITY

Objective 1: Ensure that historically disinvested communities that are most affected by local climate impacts are centered and involved in the processes of developing, implementing, and evaluating solutions as a result of equitable communication and engagement strategies.

C-1.1	Climate-Ready Affordable Housing: Climate-Ready Affordable Housing: Develop and implement climate mitigation and resilience requirements for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
C-1.2	Sustainable Employment Practices: Develop incentives for employers to facilitate greenhouse gas-reducing activities among employees.
C-1.3	Climate Action and Resilience Information Navigator: Help small businesses, homeowners, and renters navigate programs and incentives for reducing emissions and increasing climate resilience.
C-1.4	Community Benefits Scorecard and Agreements: Develop tools with frontline communities to evaluate City development projects and ensure they address community priorities for climate action and resilience, and encourage use by private developers as well.
C-1.5	Community Partnerships Program: Develop a climate action and resilience neighborhood partnerships program.

Objective 2: Increase the Richmond community's social resilience to climate change.

C-2.1	Climate-Ready Community Fund: Establish a Climate-Ready Community grant program to provide funding to neighborhood-focused organizations to work with residents on climate action and resilience projects.
C-2.2	Community Compensation: Establish a policy and structure for paying community members for their time.
C-2.3	Organizational Collaboration: Partner with community leaders, organizations, and businesses to build community capacity for climate resilience.
C-2.4	Resilience Hubs: Create neighborhood resilience hubs in frontline communities.

Climate Equity Action Plan 2030 Pathways, Objectives, and Strategies



ENVIRONMENT	
Objective 1: Make sure all residents have the opportunity to engage with healthy natural resources, spaces, and biodiversity.	
ENV-1.1	Green Space Management: Create a program and public-private partnerships to maintain and expand high-quality public green space.
ENV-1.2	Parks Master Plan: Support the development, funding, and implementation of a Parks Master Plan.
ENV-1.3	Urban & Community Agriculture: Develop, fund, and implement an urban and community agriculture program.
Objective 2: Reduce risks and impacts to the community and natural environment from extreme heat and drought.	
ENV-2.1	Urban Heat Island Reduction: Develop, fund, and implement an urban heat island reduction plan and program.
ENV-2.2	Urban Forest and Green Space Planning: Use urban forest and green space planning to increase climate resilience.
Objective 3: Reduce risks and impacts to the community and natural environment from extreme precipitation and flooding.	
ENV-3.1	Neighborhood Prioritization: Identify and prioritize extreme precipitation and flooding projects using community engagement and data.
ENV-3.2	Extreme Precipitation Resilience Planning and Operations: Increase planning and capacity for green infrastructure management and flood resilience measures.
ENV-3.3	Land Management Practices: Enhance land management practices to increase capacity for flood resilience measures.
Objective 4: Engage the natural environment to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	
ENV-4.1	Carbon Sequestration: Implement equitable carbon farming, sequestration, and removal.

Climate Equity Action Plan 2030 Pathways, Objectives, and Strategies



TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

Objective 1: Achieve climate neutrality in municipal fleet operations, encourage alternative travel options, and increase resilience and stewardship of transportation infrastructure.

TM-1.1	Transportation Demand Management: Support commute alternatives for city employees through a transportation demand management framework.
TM-1.2	Municipal Connectivity & Complete Streets: Advance the city's Better Streets policy and prioritize walking and mobility-friendly connections between neighborhoods.
TM-1.3	Municipal Fleet Electrification: Electrify Richmond's fleet of vehicles and equipment.
TM-1.4	Climate Resilient Infrastructure: Develop a climate resiliency plan for transportation infrastructure that prioritizes projects using Envision and the Climate Equity Index.

Objective 2: Create vibrant neighborhoods where all residents can easily ride transit, walk, or bike to meet daily needs in alignment with Richmond Connects.

TM-2.1	Resilient Bus Transit System: Improve and expand bus routes, stops, and bike share options, with priority for low car ownership and underserved areas.
TM-2.2	Integrated Connectivity: Develop shared-use, green biking and walking paths that connect neighborhoods to Richmond's employment centers and amenities.
TM-2.3	Residential Mobility and Complete Streets: Promote safely walkable and bikeable neighborhoods that connect Richmonders to jobs, necessities, and amenities throughout the city in alignment with the Richmond Connects Plan.

Objective 3: Transition the community rapidly and equitably to clean-fuel vehicles and transit.

TM-3.1	Private and Commercial Vehicle Electrification: Facilitate the transition to electric vehicles across the city.
TM-3.2	Charging Infrastructure: Support the equitable and geographically-distributed expansion of publicly-available charging stations.

Climate Equity Action Plan 2030 Pathways, Objectives, and Strategies



WASTE REDUCTION & RECOVERY	
Objective 1: Transition the community rapidly and equitably to clean-fuel vehicles and transit.	
WR-1.1	Zero Waste Practices: Demonstrate high-impact zero-waste practices through a commitment to meeting the standards set forth by Governor Northam's Executive Order 77.
WR-1.2	Waste Stream Reporting: Track and make available the impact of the city's waste reduction programs in order to provide a model for other institutions, business, organizations, and Richmonders.
Objective 2: Encourage community waste reduction by equitably prioritizing a circular economy.	
WR-2.1	Incentivize & Reward Institutional Waste Reduction: Promote institutional and corporate best practices for zero waste initiatives.
WR-2.2	Consumer Education: Better inform Richmonders about the impacts of waste, litter, and consumer choices.
WR-2.3	Recycle Specialty Materials: Address materials in the waste stream that cannot be managed through curbside recycling or composting initiatives.
Objective 3: Develop and implement a comprehensive and equitable citywide composting plan.	
WR-3.1	Municipal Composting Initiatives: Provide education about and options for composting at city-owned properties and events, including opportunities for the distribution of matured organic matter.
WR-3.2	Citywide Composting Program: Develop an equitable residential organic waste composting program that includes regular curbside pickup and accessible dropoff locations.
Objective 4: Ensure that policies and standards for waste generation and disposal reflect the community's priorities for an equitable, clean, and sustainable Richmond.	
WR-4.1	Public Advocacy for Waste Reduction: Engage Richmonders to develop and mobilize support for legislation, policies and programs aimed at reducing waste.
WR-4.2	Construction & Disposal Standards: Require new and updated standards for site development and waste management
WR-4.3	Transparency & Environmental Justice: Protect communities from industrial waste by requiring regular waste audits and impact assessments for all new and existing facilities.

Inform, Engage and Empower

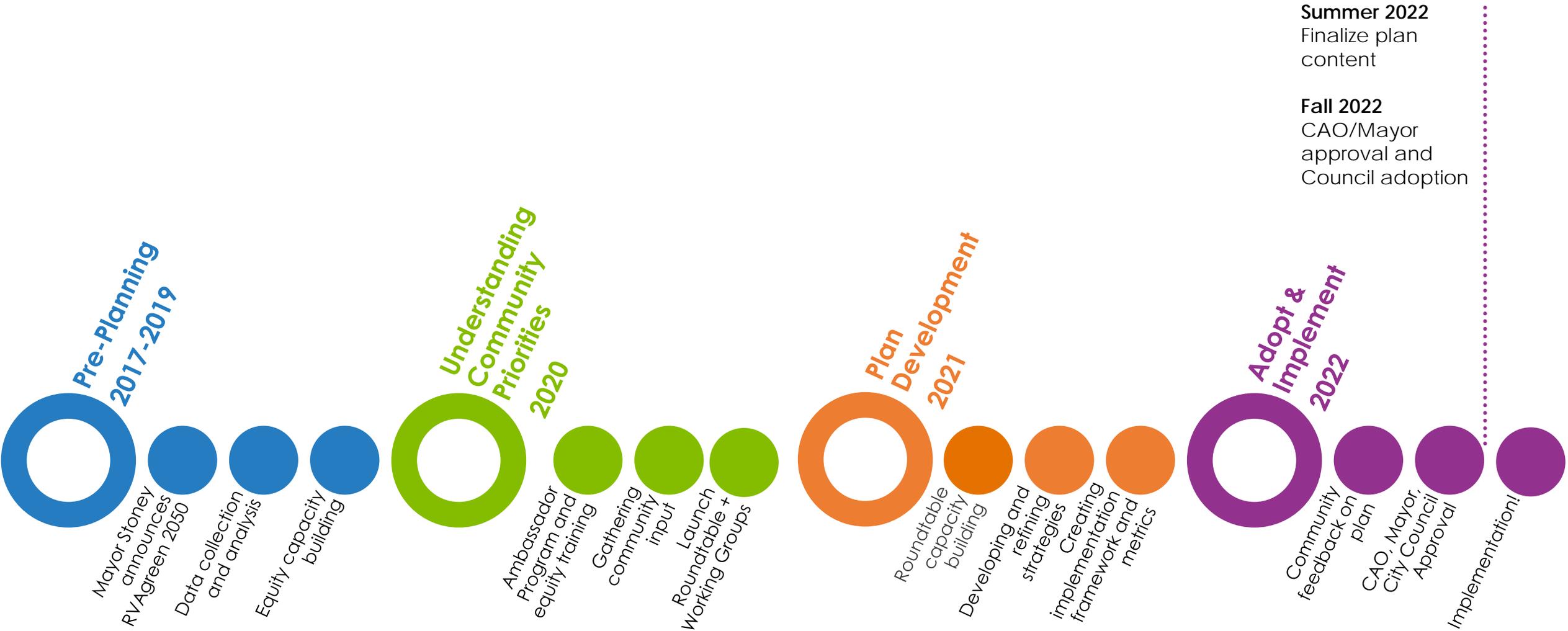
Draft *Climate Equity Action Plan 2030*

DATES: April 19-June 19

KEY ELEMENTS:

April 19 Mayor Stoney's announcement during weekly press briefing
Racial Equity & Environmental Justice Roundtable Engagement Activities
Community Events
Office hours
Online Konveio document for public comment
First annual RVAgreen 2050 Community Sustainability Survey
Engagement Toolkit for partners (social media graphics, content, materials, etc.)
Website, social media and newsletter

RVAgreen 2050 Planning Process-What's Next?



Thank you!

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4/19/22

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rvagreen2050.com/participate



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