



TOWN OF ERIE

645 Holbrook Street
Erie, CO 80516

Meeting Minutes Sustainability Advisory Board

Wednesday, October 1st, 2025

6:30 PM

1. Call Meeting to Order

- Karen calls to order at 6:33pm

2. Roll Call and Verification of Quorum

- Present: *Mackenzie McClaskey, Art Henderlong, Karen Winkler, Renaldo Grami,*
 - Also Present: *Eryka Thorley, Councilor Pesaramelli*
- Absent: *Rick Kattar, Anne Walsh, Kathleen Teal*

3. Approval of the Agenda

- Art moves to approve, seconded by Renaldo, approved.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Art moves, Renaldo seconds, approved.

5. General Business

- A. Council member updates
 - i. No updates
- B. Sustainability Action Plan presentation (30 mins.)
 - i. Molly Marcucilli from Lotus Engineering and Sustainability
 - ii. [SAP Presentation to SAB.pdf](#)
 - iii. Karen asks about the equity – is it tied to environmental justice? Molly says tools didn't identify things like houses near the landfill but there are overlays of being near oil and gas or landfill. Sometimes data can be very nuanced.
 - iv. Only about 5% of the landfill is from the residents of Erie but global protocol says all emissions must be included since the landfill is within town boundaries.
 - v. We are including a portion of the DIA emissions, so Councilor Pesaramelli asks if we are including the other smaller airports nearby like Jeffco and Boulder – unknown currently, but protocols are always being updated, and more data is also being collected.
 - vi. Demolition waste is the largest portion of landfills (37% of landfill stream). Councilor Pesaramelli asks if there exists a program to divert that waste in Weld County as there is in Boulder and Eryka says there isn't any at this time; Weld has been more engaged with water conservation.
 - vii. Karen would like to see things as they are going along – this board could help have a huge impact assisting with the Education and Outreach portion. Eryka would like to share the drafts with SAB and get feedback prior to adoption. Board can have an additional meeting to go over the draft sometime in January or February to give feedback.
 - viii. Discussions about the landfill – this landfill does recapture emissions, is that 33% including the captured emissions or is that what has not been captured? Will get back to us on that. They are putting that captured energy back into the grid, however, it isn't as clean as other forms of energy.
 - ix. Enforcing compost collection is going to be challenging. We do have a pay as you throw ordinance from 2020 but there's no way to enforce it because the town doesn't license to

any of the haulers. Western and Republic offer compost, but as Karen says, if an HOA doesn't contract with the haulers to include compost, then the opportunity is lost.

- x. EPR will provide a great opportunity to bring the discussion around to reducing the cost of trash and recycle collection but then add compost collection so that you may come out at the same price as before.
- xi. Closed landfills are included in these metrics and while they aren't capturing emissions, each year sees a reduction in the emissions over time.

C. Sustainability materials for public engagement

- i. New Resident Booklet – was very popular when we had it to hand out but they are meant for new residents and are pricey to print out. Could we instead have our own booklet that includes all the different information we have rather than a handful of fliers.
- ii. Get a draft going and then bring it to the comms team. We can also do a QR code for a digital copy.
- iii. **[ACTION]:** Mackenzie will bring a draft to the next meeting.

D. Community Fruit Rescue updates

- i. Ended up with five harvests for Erie. Karen got feedback that going forward we should have additional education to the fruit stewards so that they can better identify when the fruit is ready to harvest.
- ii. Tastiest harvest was done at the mayor's rental property.
- iii. To date, 310 pounds human grade fruit has been donated to Erie Food Bank, Community Food Share, and Meals on Wheels, and 150 pounds of animal-grade fruit went to Good Life Refuge and Luvin Arms.
- iv. Will need a commercial kitchen if we did an activity to teach a class on how to prepare the fruit, like for canning, perhaps we could use 24 Carrot on one of the days they are closed. Councilor Pesaramelli also mentions we could look at food trucks because they have commercial kitchens.

Commented [MF1]: [@Karen Winkler](#) feel free to add more details here!

Commented [KW2R1]: Done!

E. Staff liaison updates

- i. RAP crew presenting to Town Council October 7th and Symposium on the 31st
- ii. Applying for a 2nd capstone project to build off this one.
- iii. Turf replacement project – Dylan is back from baby leave (Welcome, Archibald!) and wrapping up for the year. Biggest year to date with 99 people applying.
- iv. Energy Efficiency Rebates has used up all the funding, and more are coming in so looking to pull funds from other things. With incentives going away, they anticipate lower participation next year.
- v. Heat pump pilot very successful. 80+ residents registered, 25 actually paid and moved forward with contract. Will be another bulk purchase program again next year.
- vi. Xcel is going to help cover the cost of three more dual port chargers.
- vii. Clean Up Day – went through 300 cookies by 10:30, went through all of the materials.
 - i. Some people were frustrated by the delay getting through the exit
 - ii. Could move our tent to the front of the line where people are waiting already and aren't yet frustrated
 - iii. Could be good to have a map not only for the places on where to drop things off but how to get to the landfill from that location
 - iv. Eryka and Emma talked to Green Sheen to partner with them for the spring clean up day; there were lots of hoops to make it work with them and Art had strong feelings about not supporting it since the collection depending on the materials is complicated and we already have an easy way for residents to take care of it at the Household Hazardous Waste facility in Boulder for free.
 - v. Rigid plastics could be a good direction to expand or even add it to the recycling center here in Erie.
 - vi. Has not had good experiences with working with Goodwill but perhaps other

donation options are out there since some of the materials were still perfectly good to use.

F. Board member updates

- i. Prior action items
- ii. New updates
 - i. Art: We should start thinking about getting Earth Day / Arbor Day for 2026 on a future agenda. December meeting will be a good time for that. Karen and Art will oversee that again.
 - ii. Mackenzie: Bee harvest event is scheduled at library for October 25th at 11am.
 - iii. Karen: Fire-Wise Gardening event with Friends of Coal Creek was postponed to October 23rd.
 - iv. Mackenzie asks about the budget for next year and if we have leftover for this year that we should invest in some swag materials for next year. That will be in the November meeting.
 - v. Karen: In December, will outline some priorities for 2026. Councilor Pesaramelli brought up the Repair Café opportunity that we could look at for 2026 as well.

6. Adjournment

- Adjourned at 9:01pm – next meeting is on November 5th at 6:30pm.



Erie Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) Update

Town of Erie, Colorado
Sustainability Advisory Board

**Molly Marcucilli | Climate Mitigation and Resilience
Planning Associate
Lotus Engineering & Sustainability**

**Eryka Thorley | Sustainability Manager
Town of Erie**

SAP Presentation Overview

- **Project Background & Timeline**
- **GHG Inventory Overview**
- **Stakeholder and Community Engagement Update**
- **Strategy Development Overview**
- **Looking Ahead**
- **Q&A**

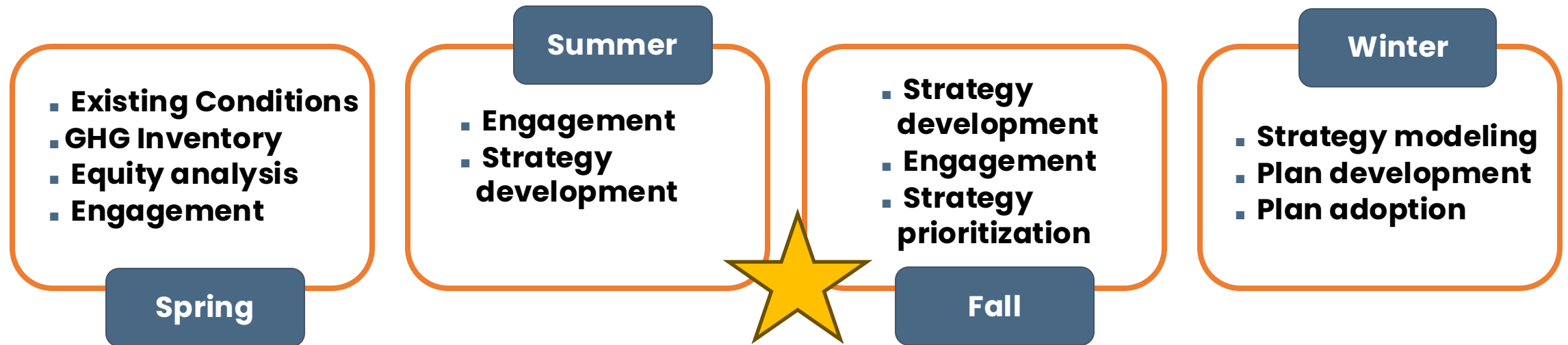


SAP Project Background

- Erie adopted a **Sustainability Plan in 2019**.
 - The 2019 plan was a 5-year plan.
 - Many strategies have been implemented! ~80%
- Town of Erie declared a **Climate Emergency** in 2024.
 - Initiative to adopt a **2025 Climate Action Plan**.
 - Renewable energy expansion across all Town operations.
 - Multi-modal zero and low emission transportation.
 - Additional zero waste and strategic waste diversion to reduce waste going to landfill.
 - Beneficial Electrification Plan adopted in May 2025.
- Erie conducted a **GHG Emissions Inventory** in 2021 and 2023.
 - This inventory will guide the direction of the new plan.

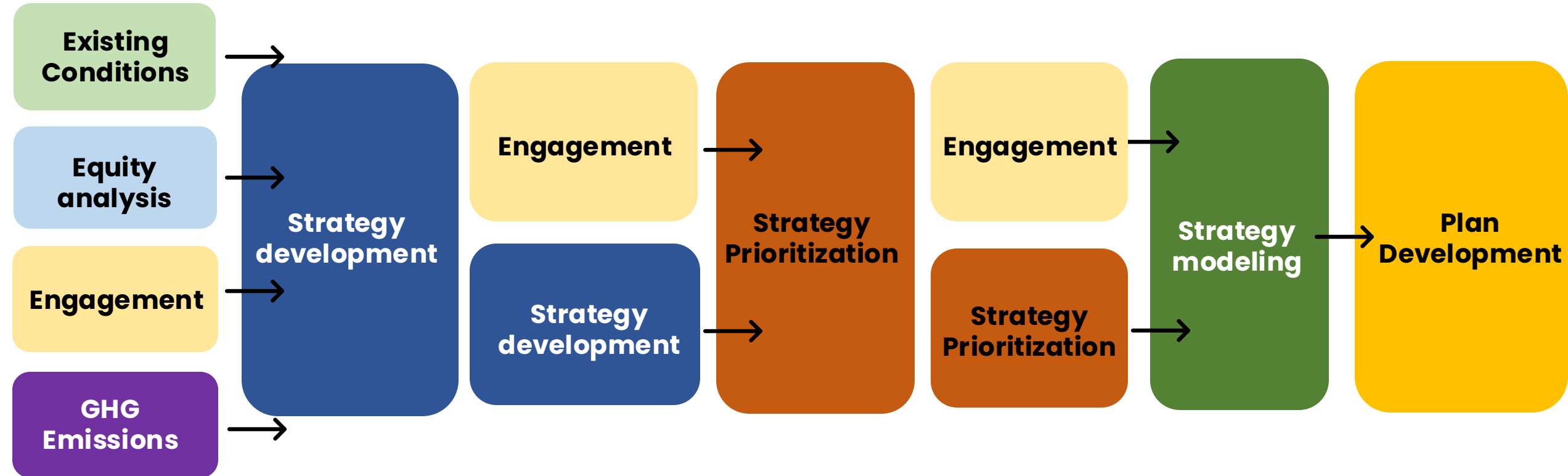


SAP Project Timeline



SAP Project Workflow

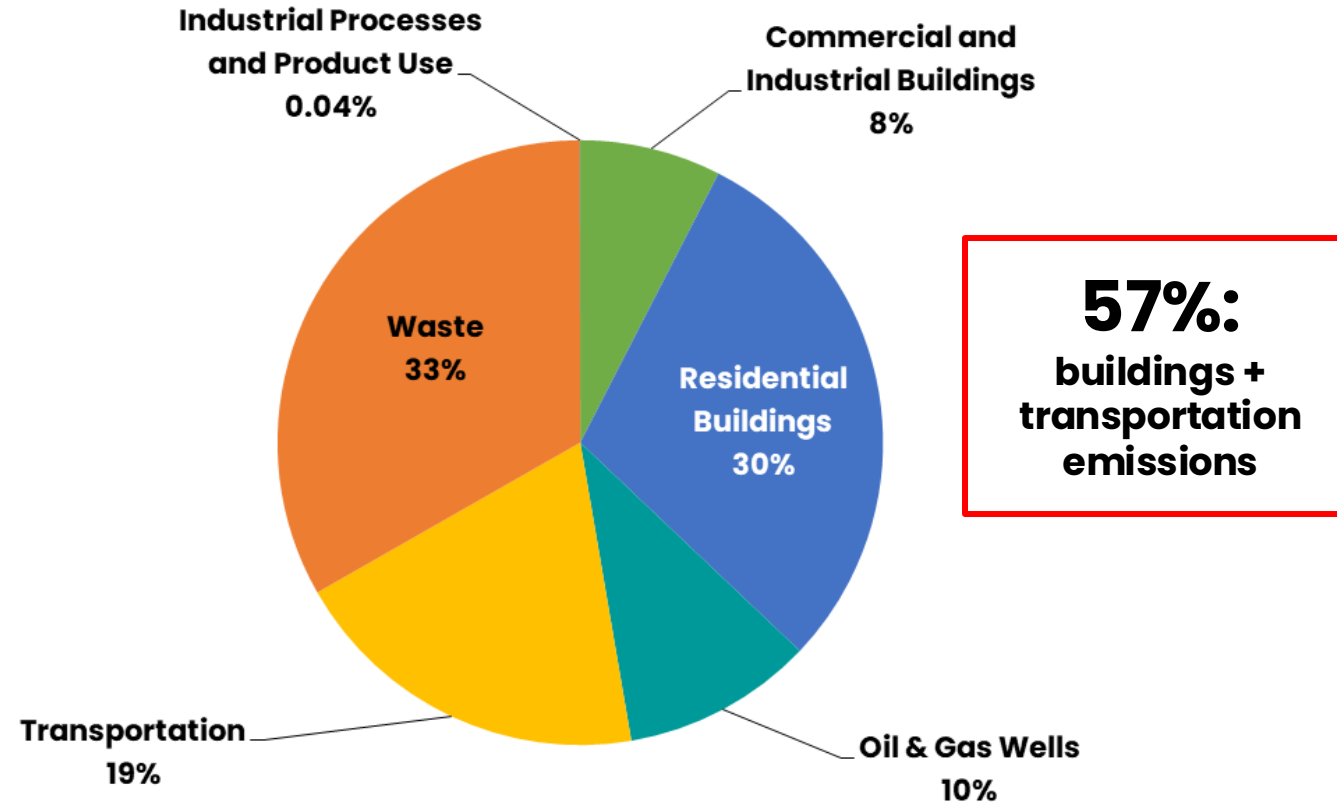
How do all these pieces fit together?



SAP: Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory Overview



Community GHG Emissions by Sector (2023)

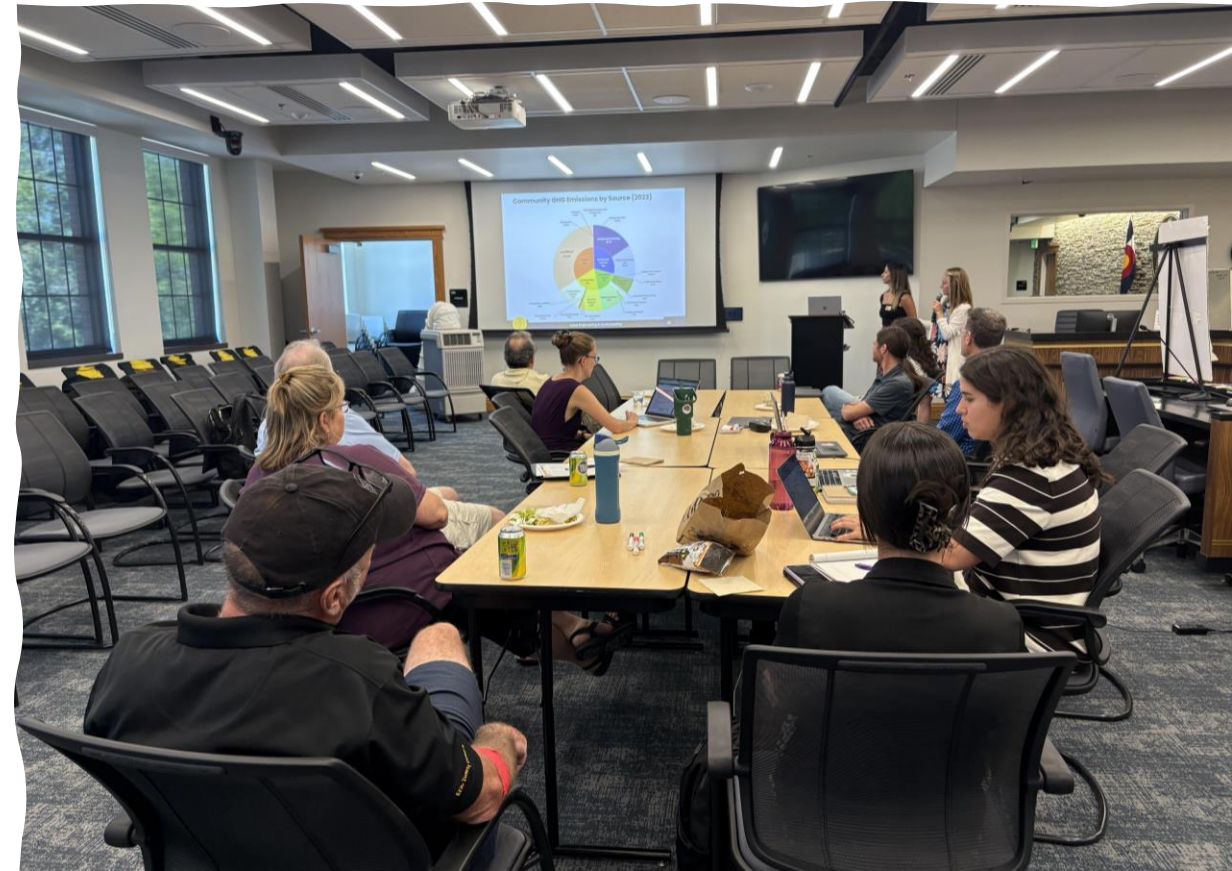


SAP Stakeholder and Community Engagement Updates



What We've Done

- Tabling at Arbor/Earth Day
- Tabling at Erie Farmer's Market
- Staff Focus Group
- Steering Committee Meeting #1 and #2
- Charette
- IN PROGRESS: Staff strategy review



Emerging Themes from SAP Engagement

- **Important focus areas:**
 - Waste diversion, multimodal transportation access, renewable energy, and protection of natural resources.
- **Core values:**
 - Quality of life, equity, resilience, open space & recreation, and public health.
- To date, this project is **well-received** by everyone we have engaged with thus far.



Source: Uncover Colorado | C.L Baker



SAP Strategy Development



Sectors for the SAP

Sector	Description
Buildings & Energy	Building electrification, energy efficiency, renewable energy adoption, energy code
Waste & Materials Diversion	Residential and commercial composting, waste diversion, circularity
Transportation & Mobility	Vehicle electrification, expanding transit + transportation infrastructure
Nature-Based Solutions	Protecting the natural environment, resilience, agriculture
Education & Outreach	Educate and empower the community to take part in advancing sustainability and climate action

Equity and resilience built into each sector



Draft SAP Strategies

Buildings & Energy

TOPIC AREAS



- Advanced energy code adoption
- Energy use and efficiency
- Programs for low-income households
- Renewable energy adoption

Transportation & Mobility

TOPIC AREAS



- Improving and promoting trails, paths, and alternative transportation
- Car and bike share
- Continued community & town EV adoption
- Subsidized transit passes

Waste & Materials Diversion

TOPIC AREAS



- Expand Recycling Center services
- Business outreach
- Pilot waste diversion policies
- C&D waste diversion
- Curbside composting



Draft SAP Strategies

Nature-Based Solutions

TOPIC AREAS



- Community agriculture
- Local food accessibility
- WaterWise, native landscaping, xeriscaping, and pollinator friendly practices
- Green infrastructure

Education & Outreach

TOPIC AREAS



- Green Business Network
- Regional collaboration
- Expand outreach (and targeted outreach) to promote sustainable programs and practices.
- Events and showcases (bike safety training, pollinator gardens, etc).

Goal-Setting

We will identify short-term and long-term goals within each sector to keep Erie on track to meet the 2030 & 2050 goals of this plan.



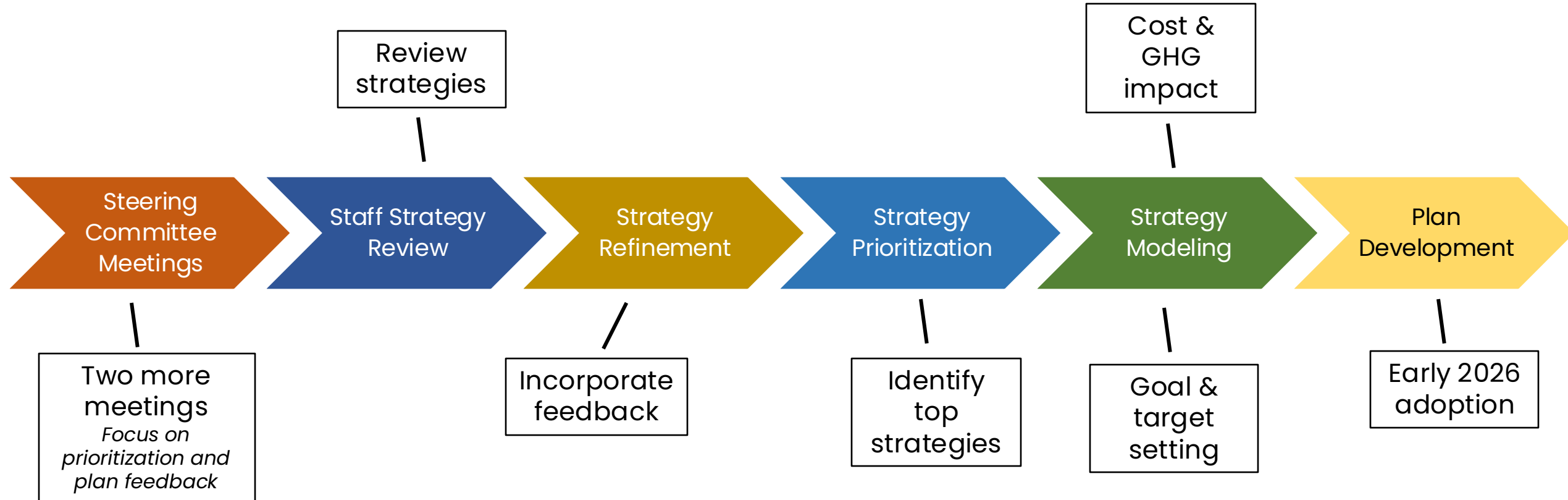
Looking Ahead



Source: Town website



What's Next?



Note: the SAP will reference the work done for the Resilience Action Plan (RAP).



Discussion Questions

- Any initial questions or feedback?
- How best to involve the SAB in this project moving forward?
- How would you like the SAB to show up in the plan when written?





Thank you!

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