

# Sustainability Vision Plan

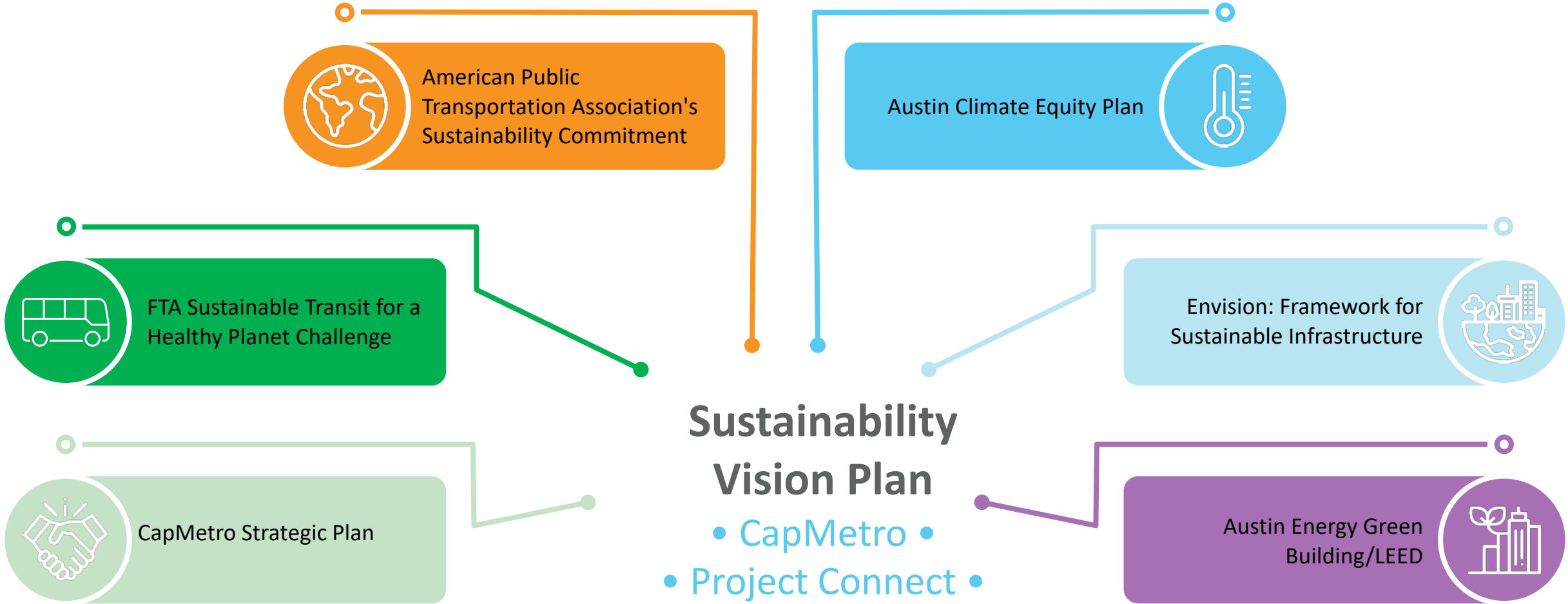
*Community Advisory Committee*

*Project Connect*

*March 10, 2022*

# Sustainability Guiding Framework

*Building on existing programs*



# Elements of the Plan

## Sustainability Vision Plan

- Establish vision statement, goals, guiding principles, action areas
- Align with CapMetro Strategic Plan and Project Connect Values; Provide a route map to APTA Sustainability Platinum Level; Align with FTA Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge
- Transparent to the community

## Internal Action Plans

- Set department-level sustainability goals and commitments; Aligned with budget cycle; Integrated with other plans –FMP, Fleet Transition; MetroBike Strategic Expansion
- Identify strategies and track action items
- Monitor and report metrics on GHG/Carbon, Air Emissions, Energy, Water, Waste/Reuse
- Establish departmental leads and responsibilities

## Annual Report

- Report metrics and key activities
- Aligned with Strategic Plan (annual update and report; revisit and innovate 5-year cycle)
- Track APTA Sustainability Commitment
- Available to the community and stakeholders

# Plan Implementation and Support

## *Proposed leadership structure*

### **Sustainability Vision Plan (CapMetro Board)**

- Adopt Sustainability Vision Policy Statement

### **Senior Management Team (Internal)**

- Approve goals

### **Sustainability Leadership Committee (CapMetro & Project Connect)**

- Implement Sustainability Vision Plan and Action Plans
- Approve Sustainability Fund Projects
- Led by Sustainability Officer

### **Sustainability Advisory Group (External)**

- Regional sustainability partners: ATP, Austin Energy, Office of Sustainability, PARD, Austin Resource Recovery, Austin Water, Watershed Protection; Austin Bergstrom, Austin Economic Development, Austin Fleet Management, Travis County, CAPCOG
- Guide implementation, collaboration, exchange knowledge and experience

### **Green Team and Sustainability Contractor**

- Support leadership staff committee in implementation and communication efforts
- Assist the Sustainability Officer in developing and coordinating plans and tools for implementation

# Regional Sustainability Efforts Guiding the Sustainability Vision Plan

## Climate Equity Plan

- Community-wide net zero carbon by 2040
- Support goal of 40% of total vehicle miles traveled electrified in Austin
- Buildings
  - All new buildings are net-zero carbon
  - 25% emissions reduction from existing buildings
- 30% natural gas emissions reduction, if relevant to Cap Metro facilities
- 40% reduction in embodied carbon footprint of building materials in construction
- Strengthen sustainable purchasing program, encourage employee engagement in sustainability activities
- 50% tree canopy cover achieved citywide by 2050

## Austin Zero Waste Plan

- Zero Waste by 2040 - reduce the amount of trash sent to landfills by 90%

## Water Forward

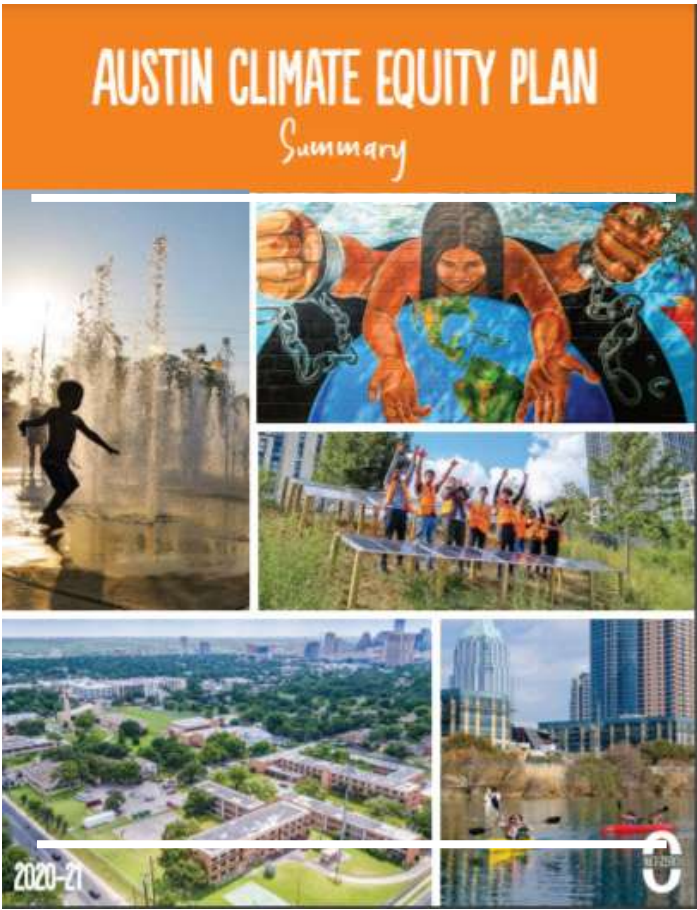
- Continued focus on water conservation and water use efficiency
- Using resources that are technically, socially, economically feasible
- Continue to protect Austin’s natural environment

# Summary of Austin Climate Equity Plan

## Austin Climate Equity Goals Sustainability Vision Plan Goals/Targets (to be considered)

Sustainable Buildings	
Net zero carbon buildings/reduce emission from existing buildings	●
Reduce refrigerant leaks	●
Reduce embodied carbon footprint of building materials	●
Reduce water demand	●
Transportation and Land use	
80% new non-residential in City's activity center	●
Preserve housing units, new housing within 1/2 mile of activity center	●
50% of trips in Austin -public transit, biking, walking, carpooling, work from home	●
Transportation Electrification	
40% of vehicle miles are electrified	●
Equitable distribution of EV charging	●
Region is leader in transportation electrification	●
Food and Product Consumption	
Access to a sustainable food system	●
GHG from government purchasing reduced by 50%	●
Zero waste	●
Natural Systems	
Protect natural lands as carbon pools and for resilience	●
Protect farmland	●
50% tree cover with a focus on equitable tree cover	●
All City owned lands under a management plan to reduce carbon and maximize benefits	●

● equivalent    ● support    ● both



## 2020 APTA Scorecard Summary

### APTA **Platinum Level** requires:

- 2 indicator **reductions** at 10%, 2 at 5%, and all others at 2%
- Commitment to 2 at 20%; 2 at 10%; all others at 5%
- 40 action items (activities); 6 stretch goals; commitment to 3 additional

Indicator	2%	5%	10%
Energy Usage: Electricity			- 34 %
Water Usage			- 14 %
Waste			
Recycling Level			
Energy Use: Fuel			
Criteria air pollutant emissions			- 63 %
Greenhouse gas emissions			- 32 %
Greenhouse gas (GHG) savings			

Capital Metro is currently at the  
**Gold Level**



Note: Sustainability indicator % changes are normalized by annual revenue vehicle miles traveled, except for recycling level

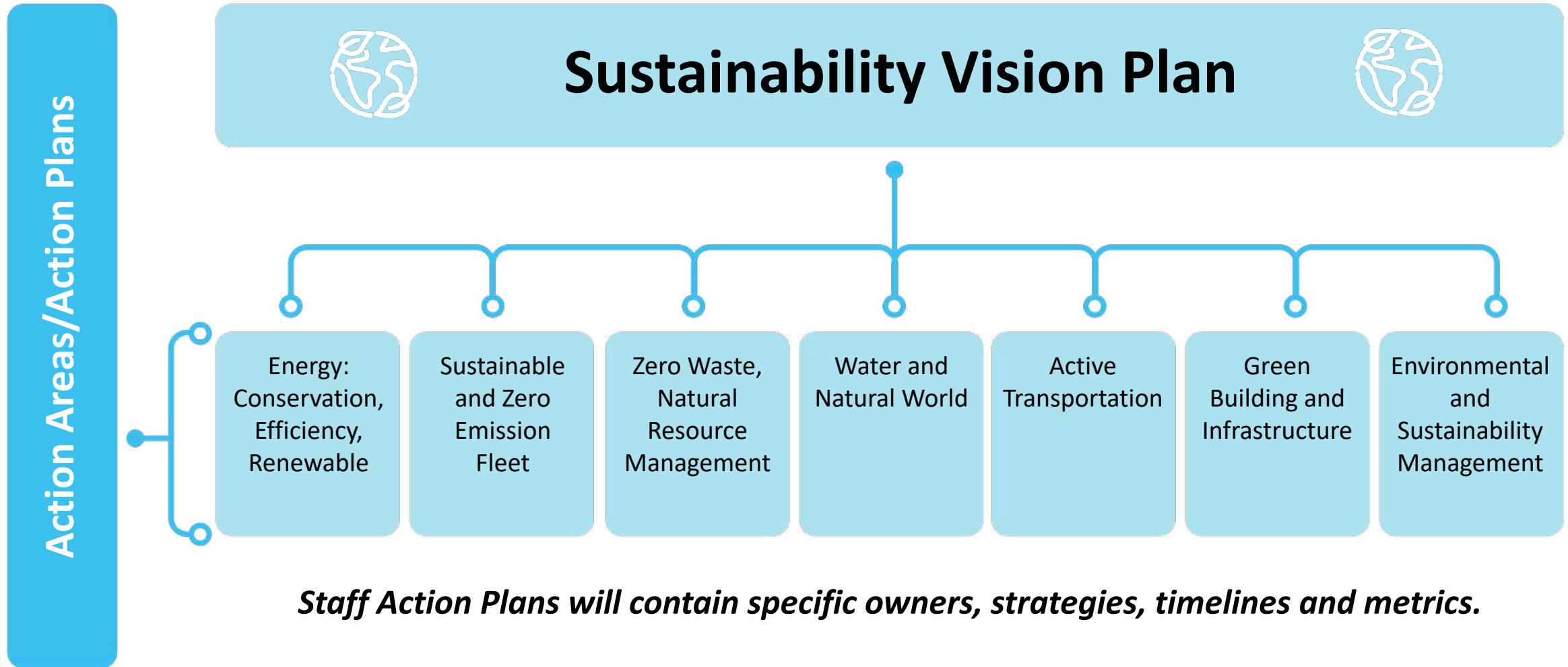
# Sustainability Vision Plan Framework

Consistent with CapMetro  
Strategic Plan and Values  
(Safety, Innovation, Equity, and  
Sustainability)

- Vision Statement
- Strategic Values for Sustainability Vision
  - Equity
  - Climate Resiliency
  - Sustainability Valuation
- Overarching Goals
- Action Areas
- Action Plan Structure
  - Targets
  - Strategies
  - Tasks



# Sustainability Vision Plan Structure

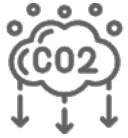


*Staff Action Plans will contain specific owners, strategies, timelines and metrics.*

## Proposed Vision Statement

*To build and operate **sustainable transit infrastructure** that keeps communities connected, protects and restores our natural systems and environment, and helps grow a vibrant local economy.*

# CapMetro's Sustainability Vision Plan Goals



## GHG/Carbon Neutral Goal:

Carbon Neutral by 2040, consistent with Austin Climate Equity Plan.



## Zero Waste Goal:

90% reduction of waste to landfills by 2040, consistent with Austin Zero Waste Plan.



## Water and Nature Goal:

Sustainably manage water resources and enhance nature and natural systems through conservation and green infrastructure.



## Sustainable Buildings and Infrastructure Goal:

Use sustainable design guidelines and rating systems (Envision, Austin Energy Green Building, LEED) to guide all capital projects.



## Equity, Customer Experience, Sustainable Transit:

Transit as the equitable and sustainable solution to a livable community.

Overarching guiding principles of...

- **Equity:** All communities will share in the sustainability benefits.
- **Climate resiliency:** Consideration will be given to design that can help mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- **Lifecycle, S-ROI, sustainability valuation:** Projects will be evaluated based on the overall costs and benefits (including environmental) over the lifetime of each project.

will be reflected in Sustainability Vision Plan vision statement.

# Proposed Sustainability Project Fund

*Subject to approval*

<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p>A supplemental fund for capital and operational projects that support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the goals of the <i>Sustainability Vision Plan</i>;</li> <li>• achieving/maintaining <i>APTA Sustainability Commitment</i> ( Platinum Level);</li> <li>• the goals of <i>the Austin’s Climate Equity Plan/Zero Waste Plan/ Water Forward Plan</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Project Categories</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy and Climate</li> <li>• Sustainable and Zero Emission Fleet</li> <li>• Zero Waste</li> <li>• Water and Natural World</li> <li>• Active Transportation</li> <li>• Green Building and Infrastructure</li> <li>• Environmental and Sustainability Management</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Examples of Projects</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero emission vehicles or charging infrastructure</li> <li>• Green building/Infrastructure design</li> <li>• MetroBike equipment</li> <li>• Urban forestry, sustainable landscaping, or habitat projects</li> <li>• Public facility recycling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewable energy projects or pilots</li> <li>• Pollution prevention projects</li> <li>• Third-party support for sustainability rating ( AEGB, Envision, SITES)</li> <li>• Energy conservation upgrades/retro-fits</li> <li>• IT equipment and software for energy conservation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Process</b></p>	<p>Sustainability Leadership Committee will identify and select projects consistent with procurement guidelines; and based on sustainability impact and sustainability return on investment.</p>	



## Sustainability Action Area Summary

### *Energy: Conservation, Efficiency, Renewables*

#### Path forward

Reduce the energy used in our current facilities and operations through a comprehensive energy management program, conservation and energy upgrades. Apply Zero Energy design guidelines for all new facilities. Renewable energy is the first choice.

#### Where are we now (current strategies)?

- 100% Austin Energy Green Choice
- Over 200 solar bus stop lighting systems, information displays
- Energy upgrades such as LED lighting at park and rides
- 34% reduction in energy, since 2014 (normalized to revenue miles traveled)
- 32% reduction in carbon emissions/GHG since 2016

#### Where do we want to be (targets)?

- 100% renewable energy for all electric sources
- Net zero carbon/energy buildings and facilities



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# Sustainability Action Area Summary

## *Sustainable/Zero Emission Fleet*

### Path forward

Transition all revenue and non-revenue fleets to zero emission, as technology becomes available to meet the needs of our operation and benefits our customers. Guide our fleet conversion with a comprehensive zero emission vehicle transition plan.

### Where are we now (current strategies)?

- North Ops Electric Bus Depot, electric-ready for 179 buses
- Procurement of 197 new electric buses over the next 5 years
- Adding 15 plug-in hybrid vehicles to current fleet of 8 electric Nissan Leaf staff fleet vehicles; and expanding charging infrastructure for NRV fleets and employees.
- Powered by Green Choice renewable energy
- 63% reduction in Criteria Air Pollutants (NOx) since 2016.

### Where do we want to be (targets)?

- 100% zero emission revenue and non-revenue fleets
- 100% zero emission light rail
- Public charging infrastructure at public facilities for customers and the community



# Online Action Plan and Tracking Tool

- Written plan (Overview, Goals, Targets, Strategies, Milestones, Project Manager, etc.)
- Intended to track progress in achieving targets
- Accountable department included
- Each Action Plan will have a separate sheet in the Excel-based tool
- Illustration only, actual tool is in development

### Zero Waste/Natural Resource Management

**GOALS**

- > Reduce amount of waste generated through operations and construction
- > Increase waste diversion to achieve zero waste to landfill goal
- > Implement sustainable procurement practices
- > Monitor and track performance for continuous improvement

**TARGETS**

1. 70% reduction in landfill construction waste by 2025 from 2019 baseline.
2. 50% reduction in landfill operation waste by 2025 from 2019 baseline.
3. Achieve zero waste to landfill.

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**Background**  
 The City of Austin, TX has studied the issue of waste disposal and diversion and developed a Zero Waste Strategic Plan which outlines goals to divert 90% of waste from landfills and incinerators by 2040. With the city's continued growth and related expansion of transportation and other services, developing an interim zero waste infrastructure is a pro-active measure to identify best strategies for increasing waste diversion and preserving landfill space. Businesses are leading the way, diverting 90% of their waste from landfills and simultaneously saving money, reducing liability, increasing efficiency and addressing climate change. Understanding that these materials are a resource for other manufacturing businesses leads to collaboration, partnerships and identification of appropriate measures for future needs.

**Overview**  
 Cap Metro understands the importance of addressing climate change through all elements of operations and continues to update sustainability efforts included in daily processes. Cap Metro coordinates and collaborates with Austin Energy Green Building requirements, which include criteria for waste diversion. Providing means for riders of public transportation systems to divert waste and guidance for waste diversion at Cap Metro facilities, related to operations, renovations and new construction are identified sustainability goals.

**Definitions**  
 Waste Diversion – percentage of waste diverted from the landfill through source reduction, reuse, recycling, composting

Zero waste – Average diversion rate of 90% or higher for overall diversions from landfill, incineration and the environment for solid, non-hazardous wastes for the most recent 12 months. Diverted materials are reduced, reused, recycled, composted and/or recovered for productive use in nature or the economy.

Circular economy – a model of production and consumption, which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products as long as possible.

Number	Action Area	Target	Strategy	Base Year	Interim Year	Target Year	Value Base	Value Interim	Value Target	Units	Source	Tasks	Accountable Dept.	Status
1	Zero Waste/Natural Resource Management	70% reduction in landfill construction waste by 2025	Develop procurement policy requiring that support contractors must recycle all construction waste	2019		2025				tons				
2	Zero Waste/Natural Resource Management	50% reduction in landfill operation waste by 2025	Establish a public facility recycling program	2019		2025				tons				

# Next Steps

- Revise with staff, stakeholder, and Board input for **vision, goals, and guiding principles**
  - Customer Advisory Committees: ATP PSEC, ATP EAC, CapMetro CSAC
  - Internal (CapMetro/ATP) *Sustainability Leadership Committee*
  - External (CoA, Travis County, CAPCOG) *Sustainability Advisory Group*
- Finalize Vision Plan
- Board ***Sustainability Vision Policy Statement*** adoption by April 15
- Submit to FTA's Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet
- Finalize sustainability action plans





**METRO**

**THANK YOU!**