



CITY OF HEALDSBURG CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: September 16, 2024

SUBJECT: Climate Mobilization Strategy Implementation Plan Annual Update

PREPARED BY: Andrew Sturmfels, Assistant City Manager

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE(S):

Pursue Initiatives that Promote Environmental Stewardship
Provide Effective Governance

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Receive a presentation from City staff on the implementation status of the City Climate Mobilization Strategy.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/OUTREACH:

Over the last year, City staff has worked with a variety of stakeholder groups and organizations to implement Climate Mobilization Strategy (CMS) actions. Regional partner organizations include Zero Waste Sonoma, Sonoma County Transit, Regional Climate Protection Authority, Recology, Northern California Power Authority, and more. Local partners include Climate Action Healdsburg, Healdsburg 2040, the Active Transportation Plan workgroup, Healdsburg Rotary, the Healdsburg Chamber of Commerce, Corazón Healdsburg, and the Healdsburg Unified School District.

BACKGROUND:

In July 2016, the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority (RCPA) released a Climate Action Plan for 2020 and beyond for Sonoma County. Then in March 2021, RCPA released a Climate Mobilization Strategy. This strategy calls for a more aggressive goal than the State of achieving carbon neutrality by 2030. For purposes of RCPA's plan, carbon neutrality is defined as achieving greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions at levels 80% below 1990 levels and achieving the ability to sequester the remaining 20% of GHG emissions.

During the City Council Strategic Goal Setting Meeting on March 7th, 2022, Council adopted a strategic goal to develop a Climate Mobilization Strategy (CMS) to identify key measures and actions that would be most impactful in reducing GHG emissions in support of State and Regional GHG reduction goals. On October 17, 2022, City staff held a kickoff with the City Council outlining the process steps for developing a CMS. On November 21, 2022, the Council

adopted a resolution approving a Professional Services Agreement with Rincon Consultants to support the development of the CMS. The approved scope of work included supporting the City with Emissions Forecasting and Target Analysis, Measure Development, Community Outreach and Engagement, Development of the CMS Document, and overall Project Management support.

On May 1, 2023, staff provided Council an update on the development of the Climate Mobilization Strategy. On June 20, 2023, staff presented to Council a draft list of measures and actions to consider for inclusion in the CMS. On September 5, 2023, staff presented to Council the draft CMS document and Implementation Plan. Following the meeting and the final online survey, staff worked with the consultant to incorporate City Council, community, and City staff feedback into the final draft CMS, which was adopted by Council on October 16, 2023.

The Council adopted strategy included 18 measures and 85 actions. To focus staff work, a 3-year Implementation Plan was created as part of the process to guide activity through Fiscal Year 2025-26 and includes beginning work on 57 of the 85 actions. One of the ongoing actions in the plan is to update the Council and public annually on the status of implementation.

The adopted CMS, Implementation Plan, and materials from the development are available at www.healdsburg.gov/CMS.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

In the 11 months since adoption of the CMS, City staff, in partnership with local and regional organizations and members of the community, have made substantial progress on CMS implementation. Of the 57 actions in the 3-year implementation plan, staff have started work on 42 of the 43 actions scheduled to begin by Q2, 2024.

Successes:

Building Energy:

- Multi-family appliance replacement program launched and increased outreach to CARE customers
- California Hydrogen Hub Grant (\$1.2 Billion), which includes the Lodi Energy Center
- Electrification and energy demand forecast in progress
- Wastewater treatment plant energy efficiency study in progress

Water:

- Municipal recycled water pipeline construction underway
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well Project exploratory construction starting soon
- Preparing for compliance with newly adopted Making Conservation a California Way of Life regulations

Electric Transportation:

- Four New EVs replacing internal combustion engine vehicles, bringing total to 9 for City fleet
- City Fleet Charging Infrastructure under construction at the Corporation Yard
- Public EV Charging user fee updates adopted by Council

- Load Management program in development
- Planning for additional public charging underway

Public/Active Transportation:

- Route 60 – New stop at North Village
- Route 67 – Obtained grant funding to extend as part of Freebird affordable housing project
- GMO Amendment addressing density and transit-oriented development on November Ballot
- Design underway on Healdsburg Avenue and Grove Street improvement projects
- Active Transportation Plan nearing completion

Solid Waste:

- Badger Park Compost Hub
- Joined Regional Biosolid Consortium
- SB 1383 compliance activities
- Re-Use Fair Collaboration

Carbon Sequestration:

- Urban Forest Grant application
- Fitch Mountain Access Improvement Project completed
- Fuel reduction work ongoing
- Arundo Removal along Russian River

Challenges:

- Berkeley v California Restaurant Association decision: In late 2023, the 9th Circuit issued a ruling invalidating City’s abilities to adopt and enforce bans on natural gas appliances. As a result of this decision, the City is unable to enforce its existing reach code or take any of the actions contemplated in the CMS regarding REACH code education. The 2025 Energy Code adoption for the California Building Code is expected in September. Staff and counsel will review the adopted codes and present options to Council for paths forward to achieve the intention of the CMS actions related to building electrification.
- Funding: Several items in the CMS require funding greater than existing City resources can provide. City staff have explored funding opportunities for a variety of projects. While the City has had significant success on a number of projects, the City is still working to obtain funding solutions for other projects in the CMS (e.g., micro-transit solution). City staff will continue to identify and apply for opportunities to fund CMS initiatives.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:

The Climate Mobilization Strategy is the governing document guiding the City’s GHG reduction activities. If fully implemented by 2030, the CMS strategies would reduce GHG emission by 24,224 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MT CO₂e).

ALTERNATIVES:

Not Applicable.

FISCAL IMPACT:

All current activities are based on the fiscal year 2024-25 and 2025-26 adopted budget.

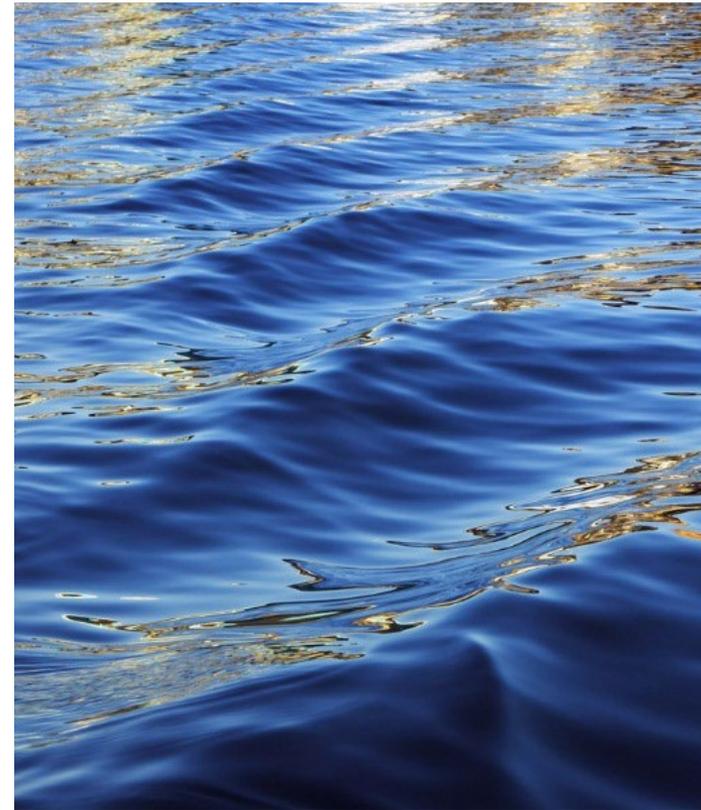
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

Pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5) of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) Guidelines, the recommended action is an administrative activity of the City and will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and is therefore not a project for purposes of CEQA.

City of Healdsburg

Climate Mobilization Strategy Implementation Update

September 2024



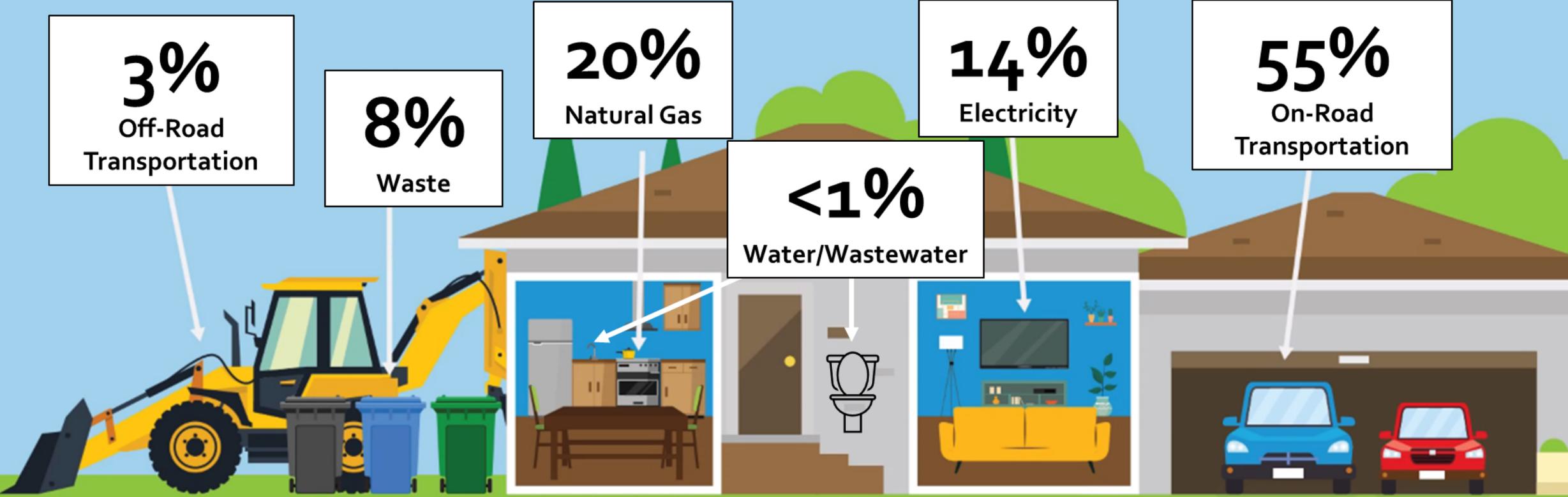
Today's Presentation

- Background
- 2022 RCPA Inventory
- CMS Implementation Plan Status Update
- Successes
- Risks and Challenges
- Next Steps

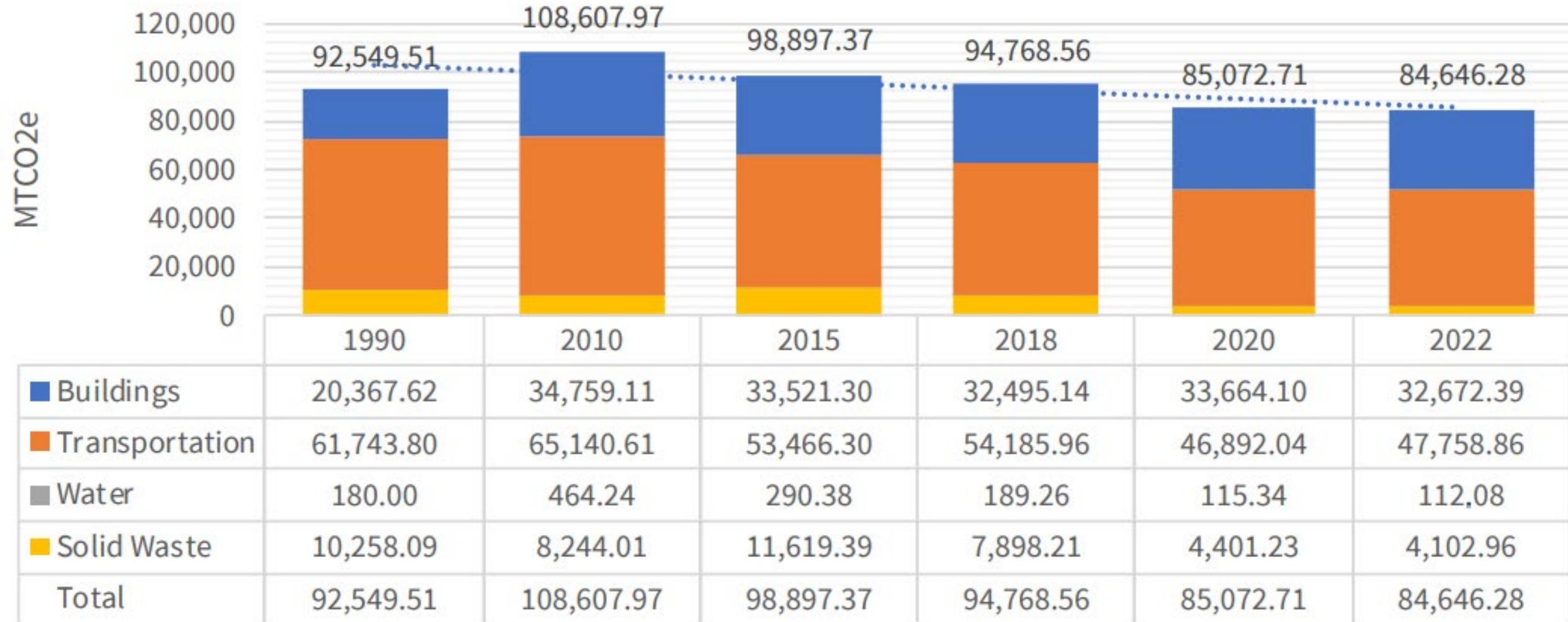
Climate Action History

- 2015 – Regional Climate Protection Authority (RCPA) begins GHG inventory
- 2016 – RCPA releases Climate Action Plan for 2020 and Beyond
 - State establishes goal to achieve 40% GHG reductions by 2030
- 2021 – RCPA releases a Climate Mobilization Strategy, setting a goal of carbon neutrality by 2030
- 2022 – City Council establishes Strategic Goal to develop a Climate Mobilization Strategy (CMS) to guide City GHG reduction activities
 - State establishes goal to achieve net-zero GHG emissions by 2045
- 2022-2023 – City and community collaborate on CMS plan development
- October 16, 2023 – City Council adopts CMS

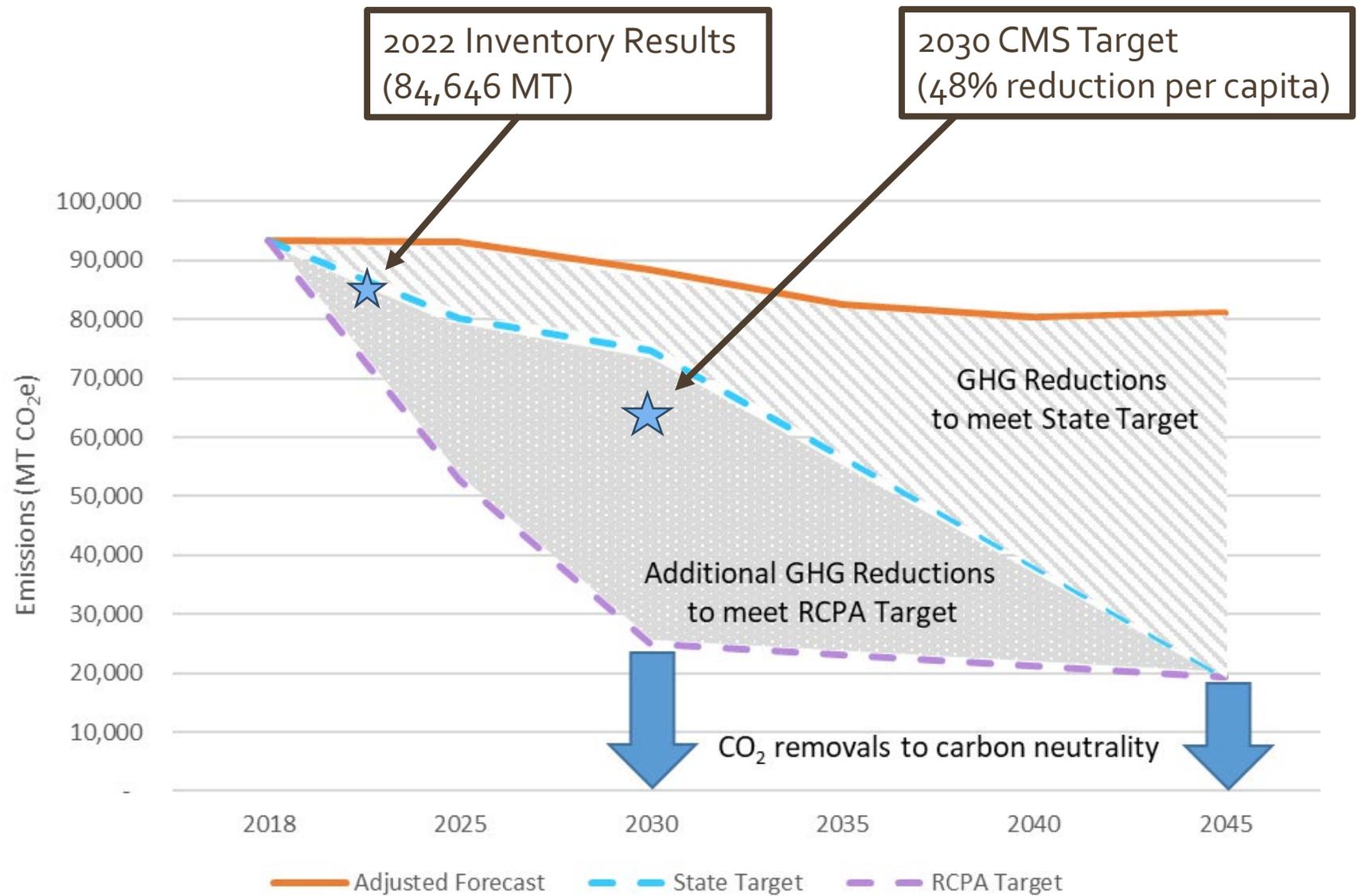
Emission Sources in Healdsburg



City of Healdsburg GHG Emission Trends



GHG Reduction Targets



Implementation Plan

- CMS Time Horizon: 2030
 - 18 measures
 - 85 actions
- Implementation Plan Time Horizon: Next 2 Years
 - Start 57 actions
- Types of measures/actions
 - Meeting State mandates
 - Municipal operations
 - New programs and policies
 - Studies to inform new policies/programs
 - Partnerships and equity

2030 CMS Targets by Sector

| Sector | 2030 GHG Reductions – Fully Implemented CMS |
|----------------------|---|
| Building Energy | 4,179 MT CO ₂ e |
| Transportation | 12,011 MT CO ₂ e |
| Solid Waste | 7,729 MT CO ₂ e |
| Water | 46 MT CO ₂ e |
| Carbon Sequestration | 260 MT CO ₂ e |
| Total | 24,224 MT CO₂e |

How are we doing?

Actions Scheduled to Start by Q2 2024: 43

Actions Started by Q2 2024: 42

Actions Delayed or At Risk: 5
3 Actions specific to Reach Code

Implementation Plan

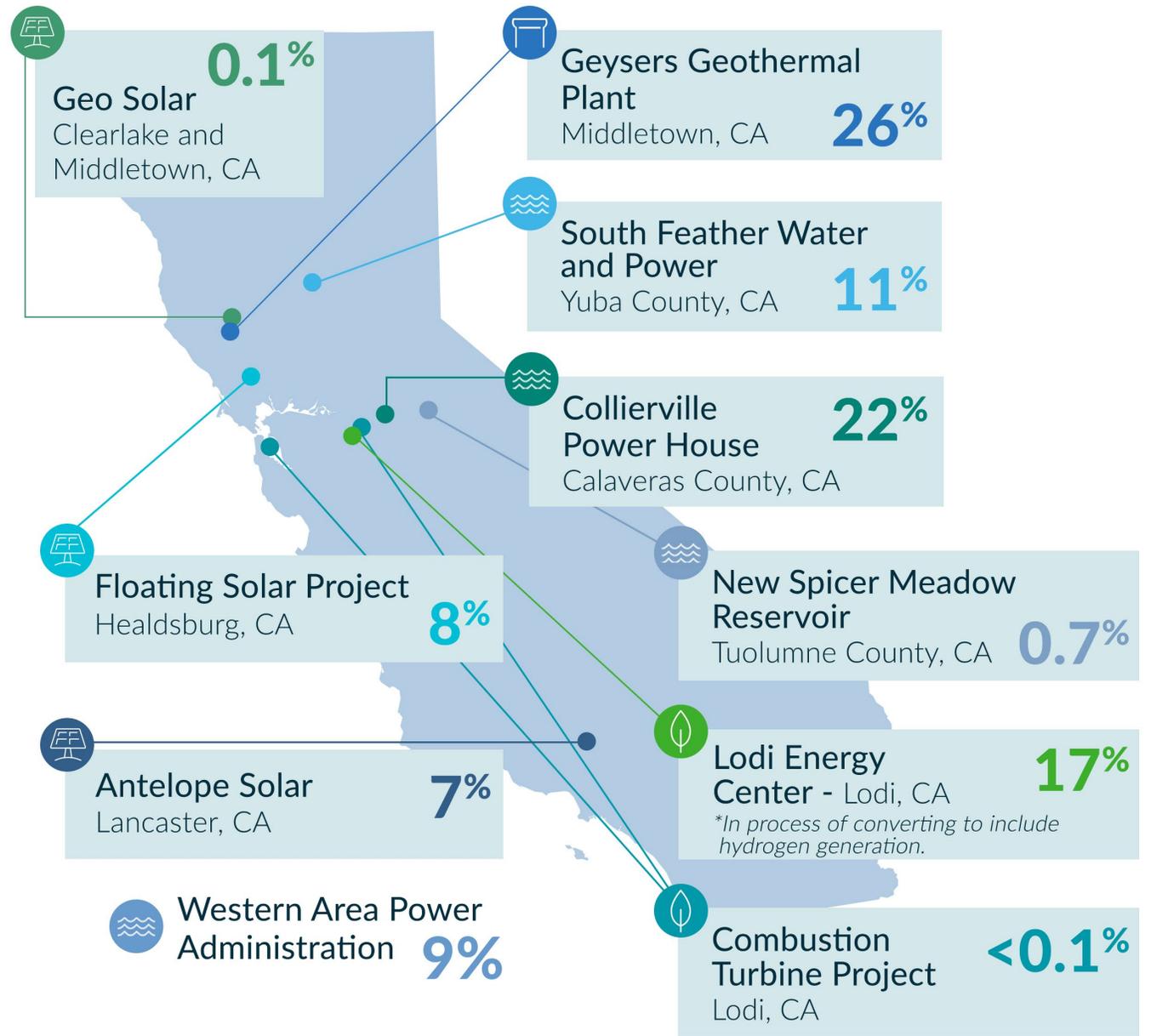


Successes — Building Energy

- Multi-Family appliance replacement program launched and increased outreach to CARE customers
- CA Hydrogen Hub Grant (\$1.2B), including Lodi Energy Center
- Electrification Forecast in progress
- Wastewater treatment plant energy efficiency study in progress



Successes Building Energy



Geothermal Hydro Natural Gas Solar

Successes — Water

- Municipal recycled water pipeline construction underway
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well Project exploratory construction starting soon
- Preparing for compliance with newly adopted Making Conservation a California Way of Life regulation



Successes — Electric Transportation

- New Fleet EVs (4 this year, 9 total)
- City Fleet Charging Infrastructure under construction at Corporation Yard
- Public EV Charging user fee updates
- Load Management program in development
- Planning for additional public chargers



Successes — Public/Active Transportation

- Route 60 – New Stop at North Village
- Route 67 Extension Grant Funding Award
- GMO Amendment addressing density and transit-oriented development on November Ballot
- Healdsburg Ave and Grove Street Design started
- Active Transportation Plan nearing completion, tentatively scheduled for Council on October 7th

Successes — Solid Waste

- Badger Park Compost Hub
- Regional Biosolid Consortium
- SB 1383 Compliance Activities
- Reuse Fair Collaboration



Successes — Carbon Sequestration

- Urban Forest Grant Application (Status TBD)
- Fitch Mountain Access Improvement Project
- Fuel Reduction Work ongoing
- Arundo Removal along Russian River



California Urban and Community
Forestry Inflation Reduction Act
2024 Grant Guidelines



Risks and Challenges

- Grant funding for more expensive actions takes time and resources, is not a guarantee.
- California Restaurant Association v City of Berkeley case impacts City ability to enforce or expand REACH code for new construction.
- Coordination and community partnership is time intensive; City has limited resources.
- Public education and participation.





Thank you!

