



Office of  
Environmental Policy  
and  
Sustainability

# Overview Handout: Tacoma Community Building Decarbonization Strategy

October 18, 2023



# Strategy Background



The Tacoma Community Building Decarbonization Strategy was initiated to identify how to meet Tacoma's Climate Action Plan (CAP) goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. It also responds to a 2021 City Council Resolution (No. 40776) directing the City Manager to assess the impacts of decarbonizing Tacoma's building sector.

Achieving the CAP goals for the building sector will require Tacoma to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions from residential and commercial buildings in less than three decades.

The Strategy will include a holistic set of hyper-local strategies, objectives, and actions required to realize the CAP goals. It will align with CAP building sector actions while contributing a more granular and targeted approach.

The Strategy will emphasize co-benefits and transformational possibilities driven by the scale, pace, and equity required to decarbonize the building sector by 2050.

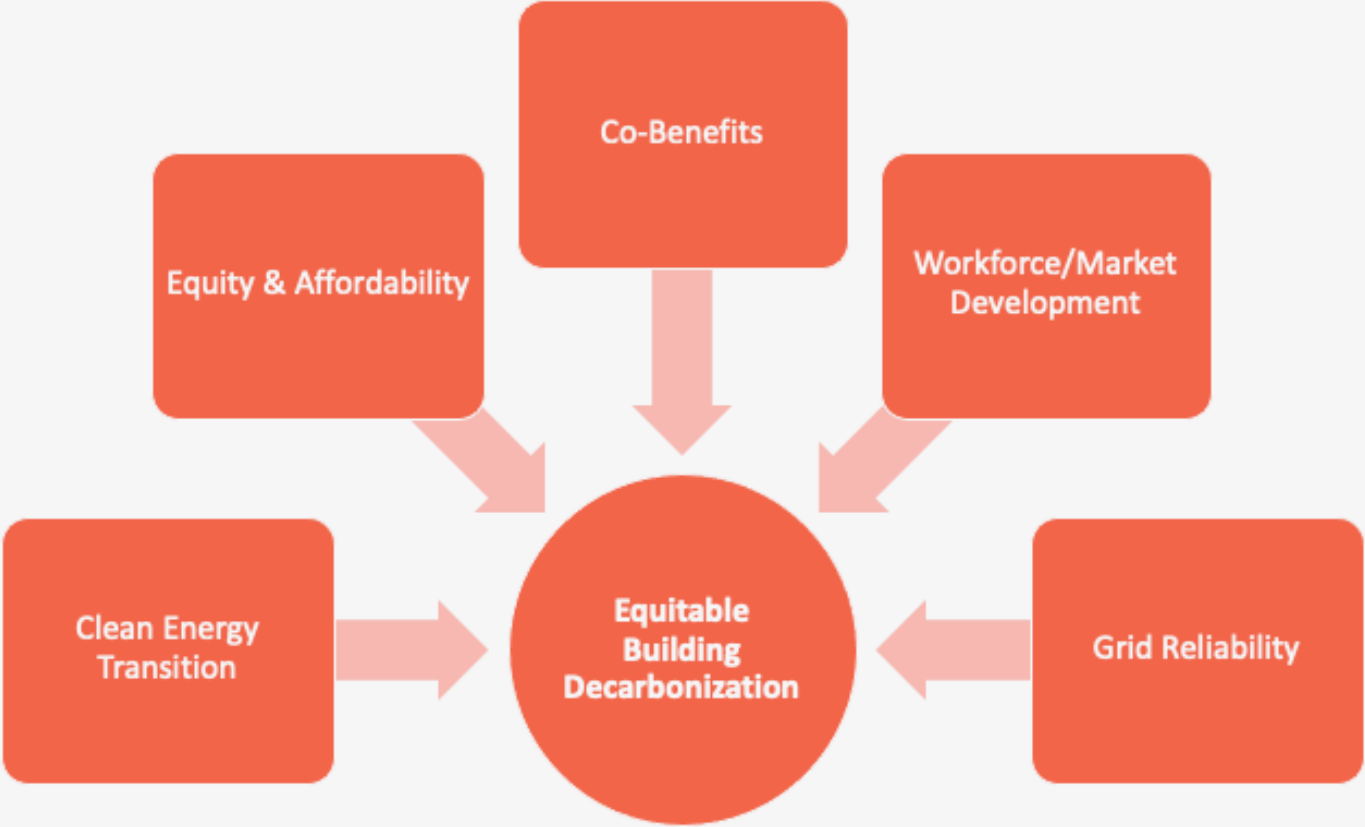
# Strategy Purpose

1. **Emissions:** Provide a pathway to reduce carbon emissions from existing and future building stock to meet climate action goals.
2. **High quality of life:** Position the city to maintain a high quality of life; with healthy, resilient & affordable housing and commercial buildings through improved indoor air quality and reduced utility costs.
3. **Long-term vision and milestones:** Set a long-term vision with clear and compelling near-, medium- and long-term implementation strategies.
4. **Co-benefits:** Emphasize co-benefits and intersection between climate, housing, public health, and equity.
5. **Engagement:** Include stakeholder/community engagement.

# Strategy Development Methodology & Status

- ✔ Strategy Framework & Existing Data Review
  - Strategy Framework – complete
  - Data Review – complete
- ✔ Building Market Characterization
  - Electric segmentation and baseline – complete
  - Non-Electric segmentation and baseline – complete
- ✔ Building Impact Assessment
  - Draft Write Up – in progress
- ✔ Implementation Roadmap & Strategy
  - Draft Roadmap – complete
  - Draft Strategy – in progress
- ✔ Stakeholder Engagement
  - Ongoing

# Tacoma Goals & Values Inform Strategy



# Key Strategy Report Elements

To ensure that the strategy report provides clear and compelling near-, medium-, and long-term implementation strategies, it will be organized around the most impactful information from the impact assessment and strategy development process, for example:

- ✓ A vision of the building stock and benefits in 2050,
- ✓ An explanation of how the vision provides co-benefits and intersects across climate, housing, affordability, public health, and equity,
- ✓ Targets and milestones linked to the partnerships, policies, programs, market, financing, and utility strategies that must be put in place within specific time intervals to meet zero-carbon targets for new and existing buildings,
- ✓ How the longer-term vision connects to and depends upon meeting the targets and milestones required to decarbonize the building stock,
- ✓ An actionable timeline with phases for implementing the strategy that aligns with 2030 and 2050 timelines, and
- ✓ An ecosystem of roles and responsibilities for various pieces of the strategy.

# Decarbonization Pathway from Draft Implementation Roadmap



- **Gradually increase the sales share of zero-emission appliances each year between 2024 and 2030**
- **Ramp up to 100% sales share of zero-emission appliances for new and replacement installations by 2030 and sustain this rate through 2050**
- **Build all new homes and commercial buildings with zero emission space and water heating by the 2024 energy code cycle and nearly all other end uses by the 2027 energy code cycle**
- **Replace fossil-fuel appliances in existing residential and commercial buildings by 2050**
- **Provide an appliance replacement rate that can be used for policy and program design and to track progress**

# Critical Phases from Draft Roadmap

## 2024-2025

- Build Policy and Rapid Market Transformation Platform



## 2026-2030

- Ramp Up Equitable Decarbonization



## 2031-2050

- Sustain Scale and Pace



# Core Strategies from Draft Roadmap: Comprehensive & Human Centered



1. Adopt Comprehensive, Fast-Tracked Policies & Targets
2. Rapidly Transform the Market
3. Significantly Expand Funding and Financing
4. Develop a Community Collaboration Framework
5. Expand City of Tacoma Implementation Capacity
6. Support Collaborative Utility Transition Planning

# Thank You.

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