

**RVAgreen 2050 Buildings & Energy
Technical Working Group**
December 16, 2020

City of Richmond
RVAgreen
2050

Buildings & Energy Meeting #1

"Health and wellbeing for everyone"

"Manage future re-construction with minimum impact to our environment"

"Excited"

"My concern is getting the entire community onboard. The folks in this group are passionate about this topic, but we need to get the entire world onboard. Its a daunting challenge."

"Beneficial use, technology and ideas to reduce energy consumption and efficiency."

"Ready"

"Challenge"

"Re-invent affordable public housing"

"Increased requirements for building energy efficiency"

"Protecting the Environment"

"Inspired"

"Urgent"

"Walkable city"

"collaboration"

"Climate Change Mitigation"

"Rooftop solar energy, building electrification, and energy storage are key to reducing our city's carbon footprint"

"Action!"

"Building codes"

"Equity = Representation"

"Hopeful"

"Bold Action Now!"

"Solar and EVs everywhere"

"Progression"

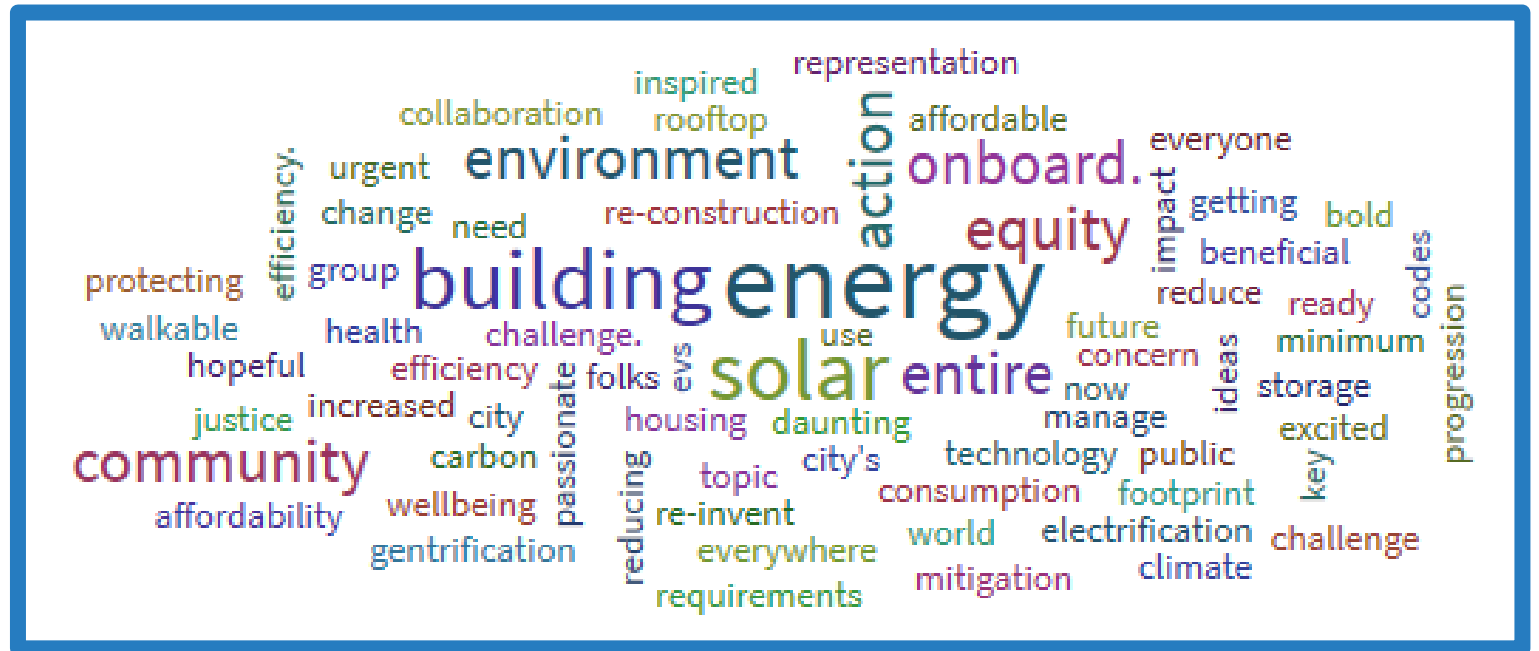
"Community solar"

"Equity, affordability, gentrification, justice"

Equitable climate action for a healthy and resilient Richmond

Agenda

- I. Settling in and Ground Rules
- II. Previous Meeting Recap and Q&A
- III. Workflow Overview
- IV. RVAgreen 2050 Vision Statement
- V. Group Discussion
- VI. Wrap-up and Next Steps



But first - meet your Office of Sustainability team!



Alicia Zatcoff

Sustainability Manager



Dawn Oleksy

Climate Action Program & Operations Supervisor



Khilia Logan

Management & GIS Analyst



Wendy Fewster

Climate Action Coordinator



Kendra Norrell

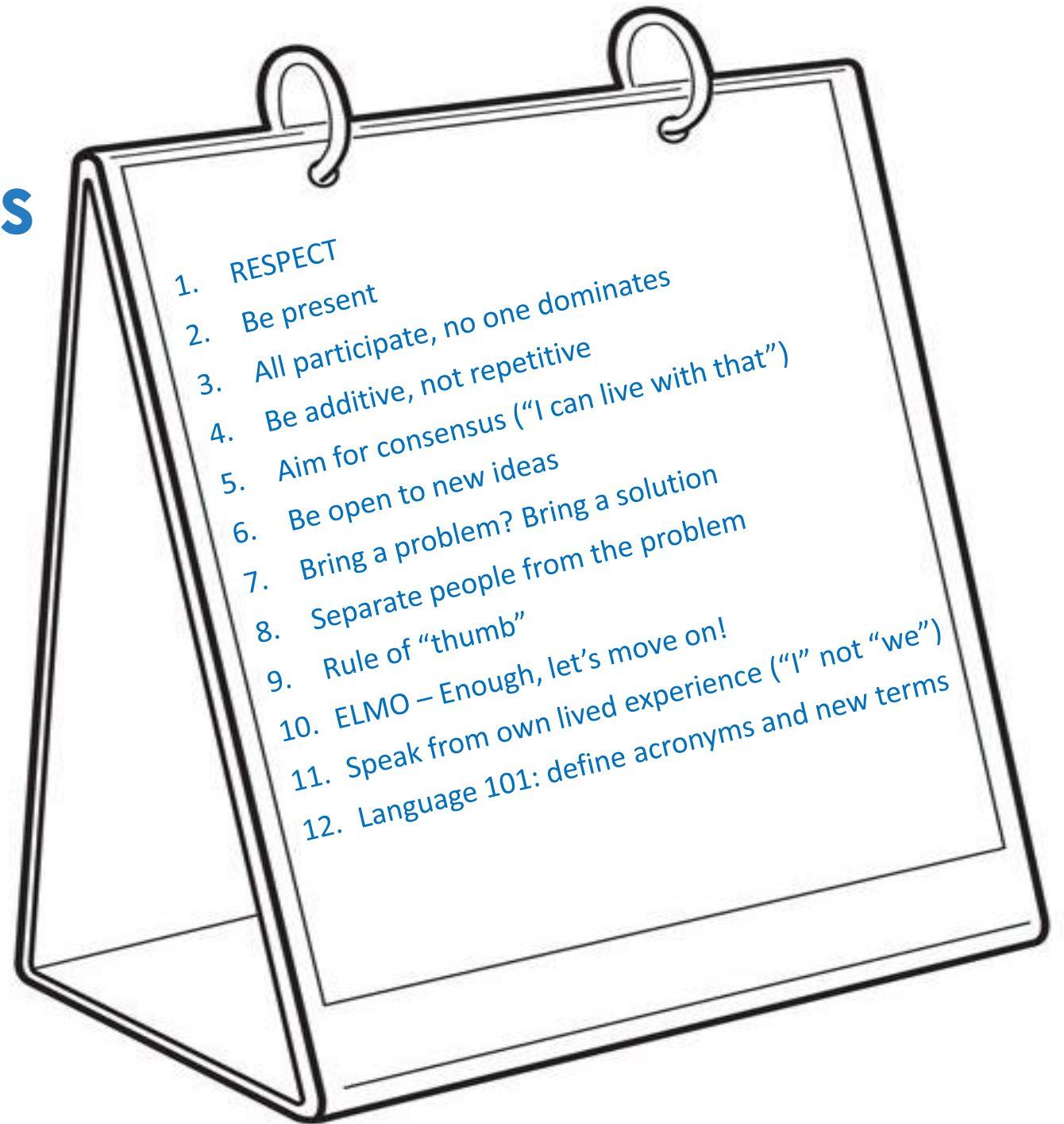
Community Engagement Coordinator



Brianne Fisher (Mullen)

Sustainability Coordinator

I. Ground Rules / Group Expectations



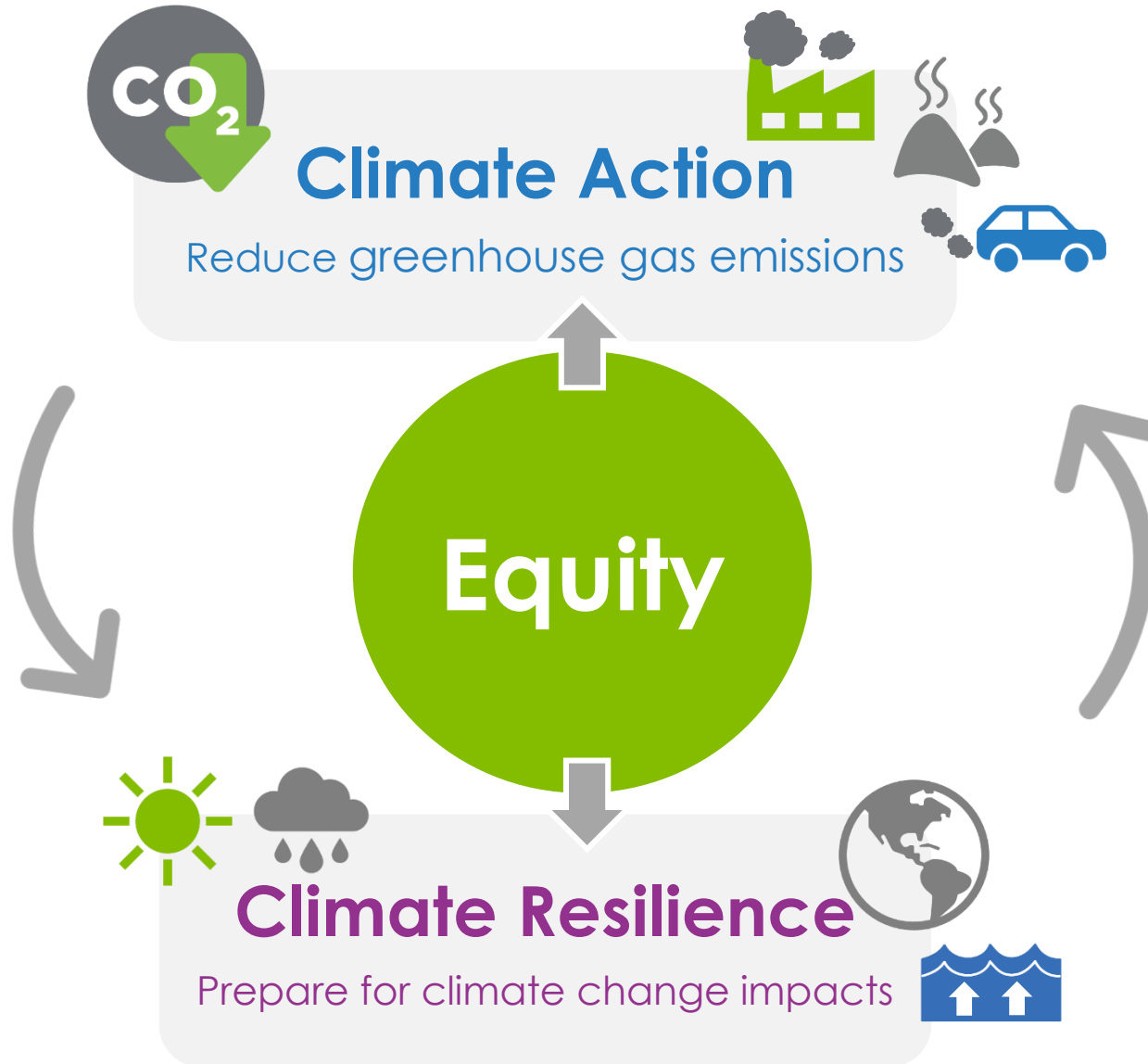
Icebreaker!

3 MINUTES: in breakout rooms with groups of 3-4

What's one way we could make our holiday celebrations more sustainable?



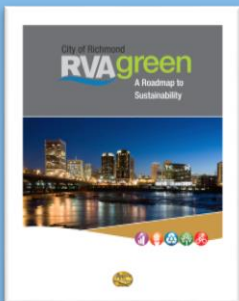
II. RVAgreen 2050 - *Integrated approach:*



A Next Step in City Planning

2012

RVAgreen Sustainability Plan



2013

Richmond Connects Strategic Multimodal Transportation Plan

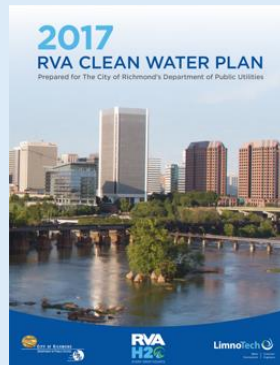
Recommends strategies for a multimodal transportation system for the city



2017

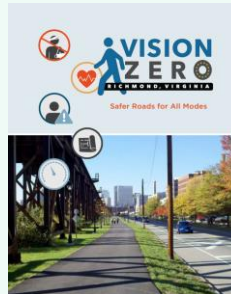
RVAH2O Clean Water Plan

Sets goals for reducing pollution and flooding



2018

Vision Zero Action Plan



Establishes strategies to address safety on city streets with a goal to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries by 2030

2020

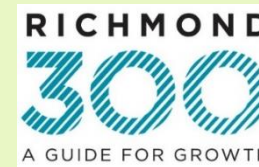
Richmond Regional Housing Framework



Establishes a vision where everyone has a stable, healthy, and affordable place to call home

2020

Richmond 300 Master Plan



Establishes a vision for growth and outlines placed-based policy recommendations to guide physical development

2020

Net Zero Resolution

Sets goals to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, and prepare for, adapt, and improve resilience to local climate change impacts through an equity-centered climate action and resilience plan



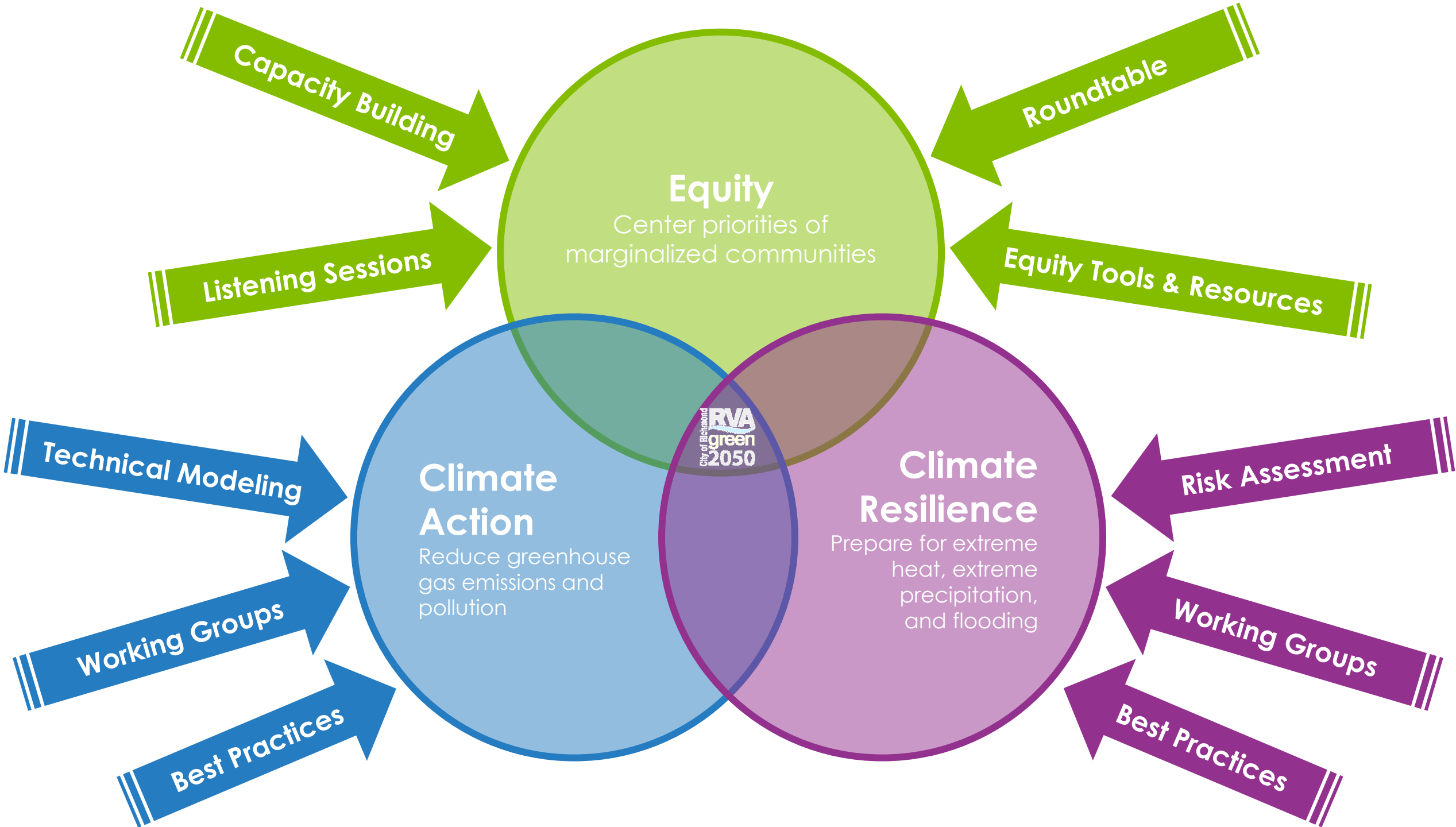
2021

RVAgreen 2050 Roadmap

RVAgreen 2050 is the city's equity-centered climate action and resilience plan

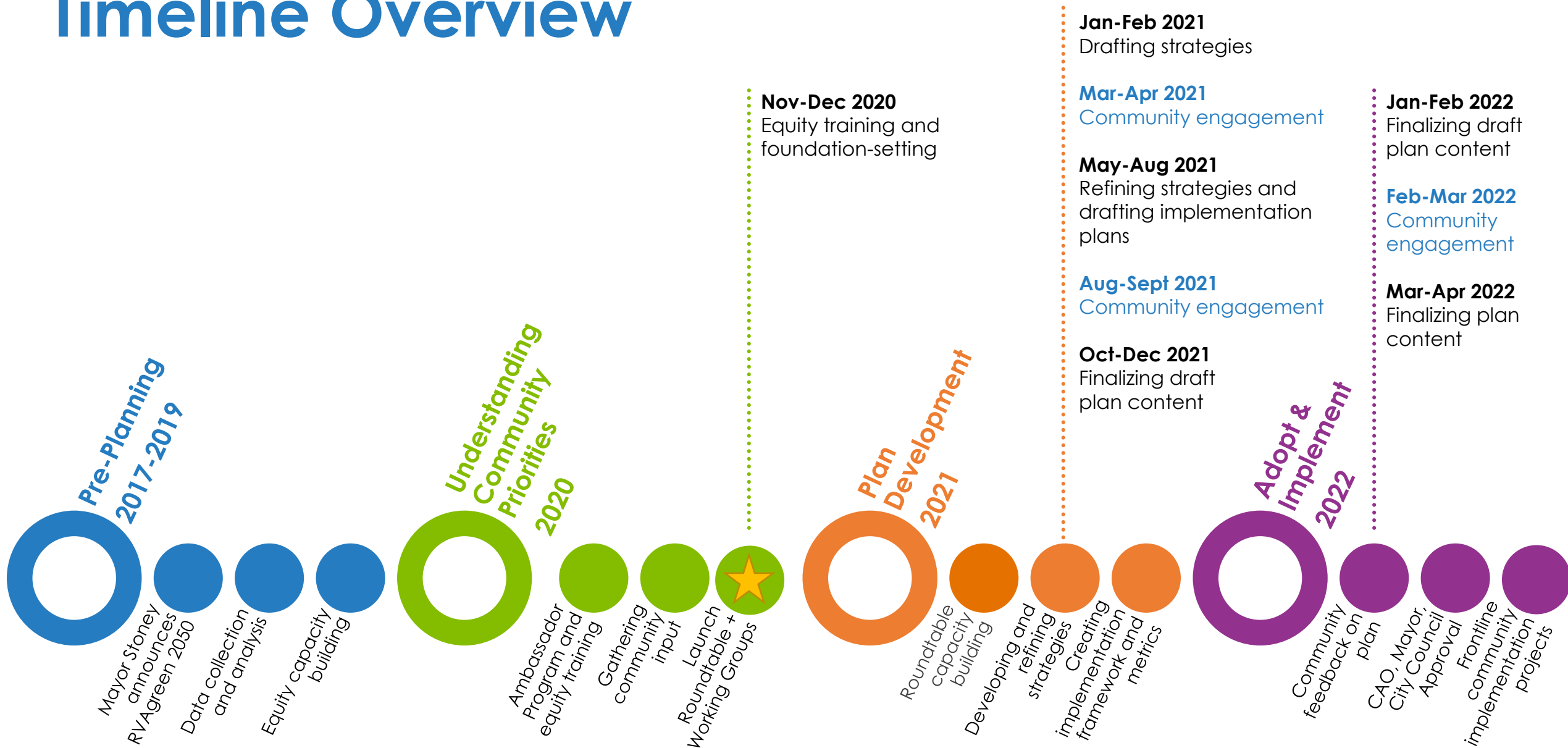


RVAgreen 2050 is equitable climate action for a healthy and resilient Richmond



RVAgreen 2050 Process: Working Groups

Timeline Overview



Planning Process Groups - Roles

Frontline Community Leaders (Roundtable)

- Help the City center equity in the planning process and elevate frontline community voices
- Share lived experience to inform and guide process and provide recommendations
- Serve as liaisons to ensure community needs and assets are integrated into planning process

Working Groups

- Provide topical expertise on RVAgreen 2050 goals and strategies to Roundtable
- Assist with translating community priorities into equitable climate action and resilience strategies

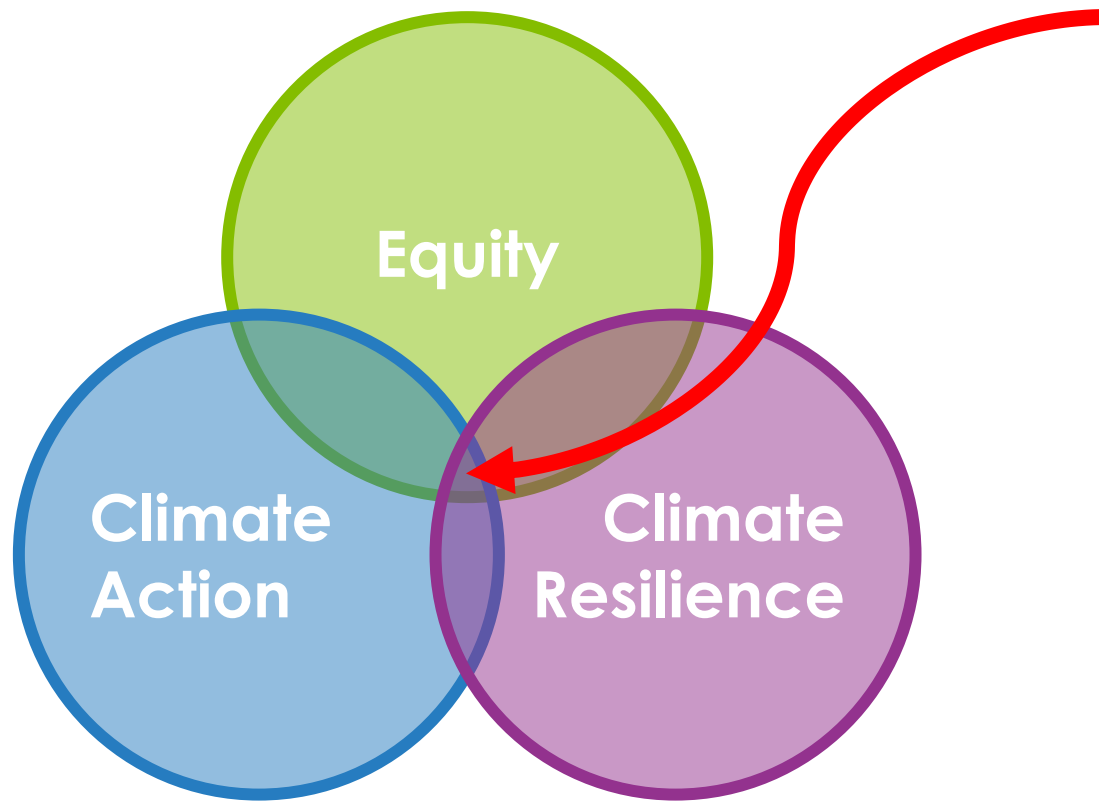
Sustainability Office

- Primary convener
- Bridge between community and City
- Support community leaders to navigate current systems and identify leverage points for change

Third Parties

- Facilitator for Roundtable
- Equity coach/consultant and technical consultants for Office of Sustainability staff
- Local universities – research, documentation, process evaluation support

Our task: drafting SMARTIE strategies at the equity-climate action-resilience nexus



Does the strategy:

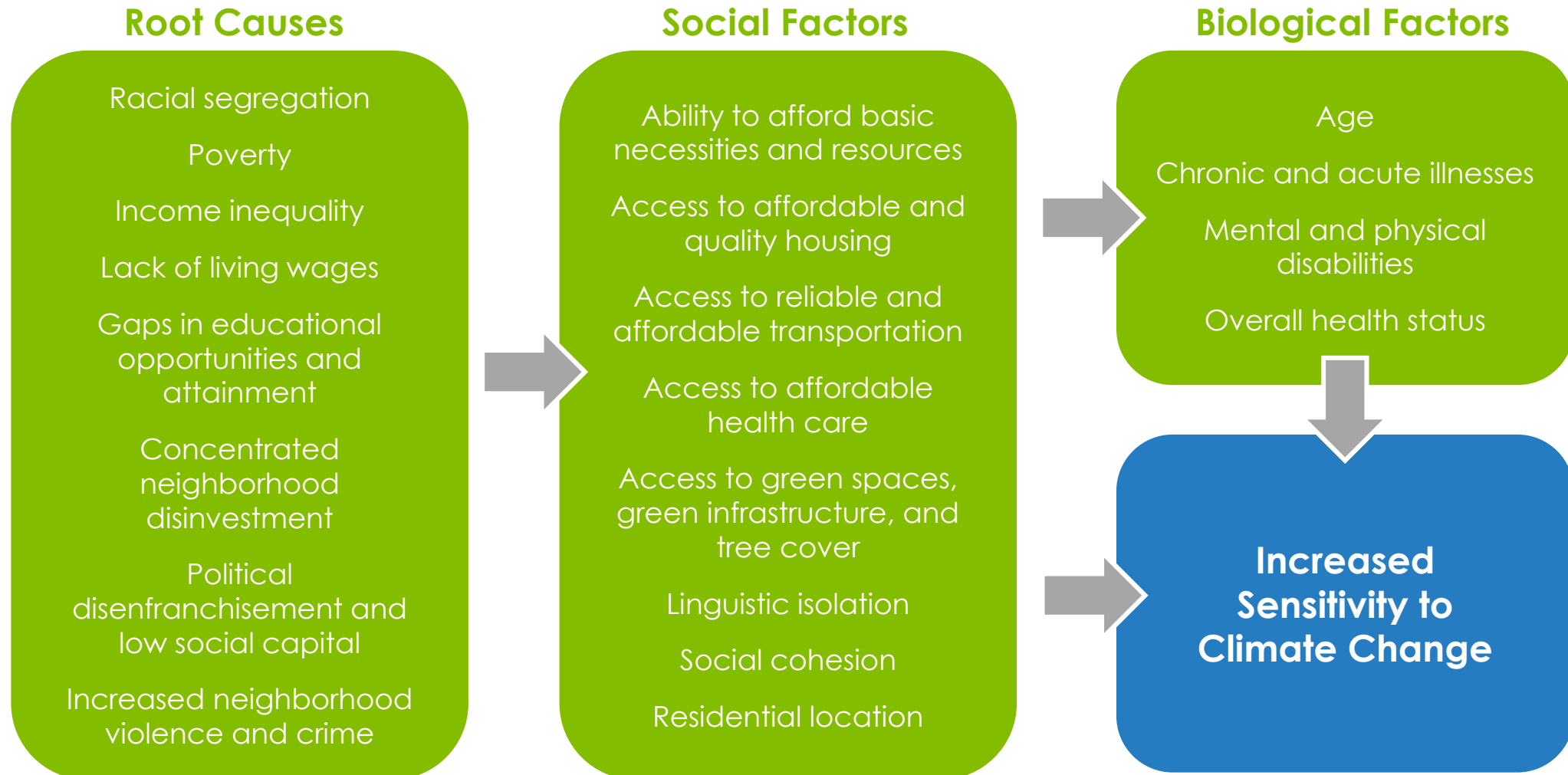
1. Address community priorities?
2. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
3. Increase resilience to climate impacts?

Our task: drafting **SMARTIE** strategies at the equity-climate action-resilience nexus

Is the strategy... **S**trategic?
Measurable?
Ambitious?
Realistic?
Time-bound?
Inclusive?
Equitable?

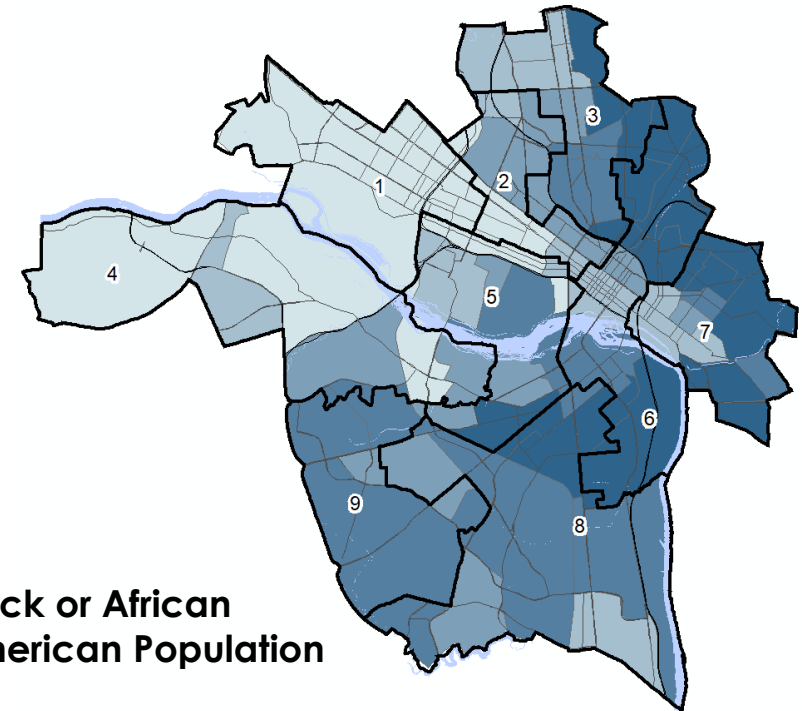
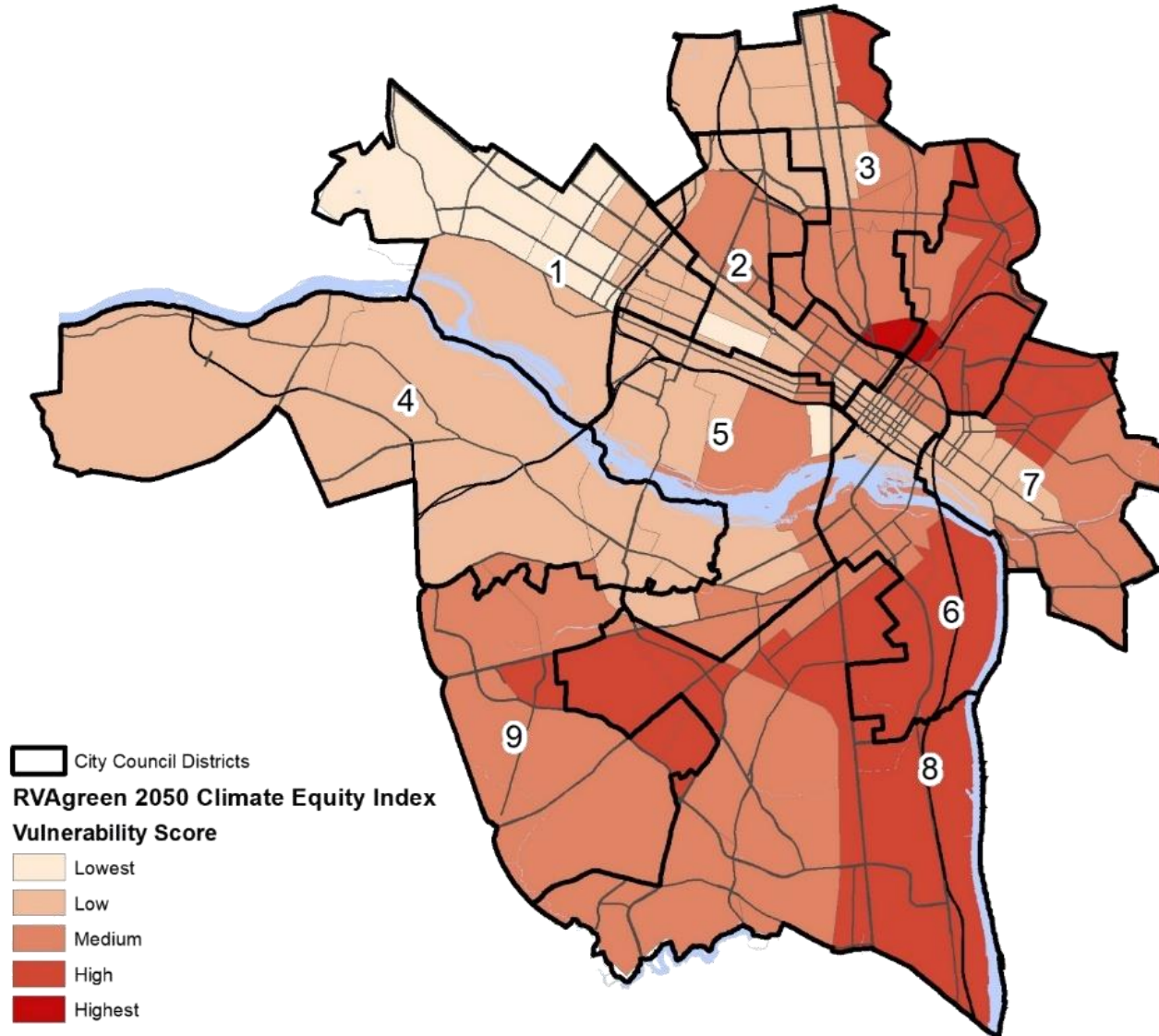
From SMART...	... to SMARTIE
Build a volunteer team of 100 door-to-door canvassers by May...	...with at least 10 people of color recruited as volunteer leaders first, so that they can help shape the way we run the canvasses.

Climate Change Affects Some More Than Others

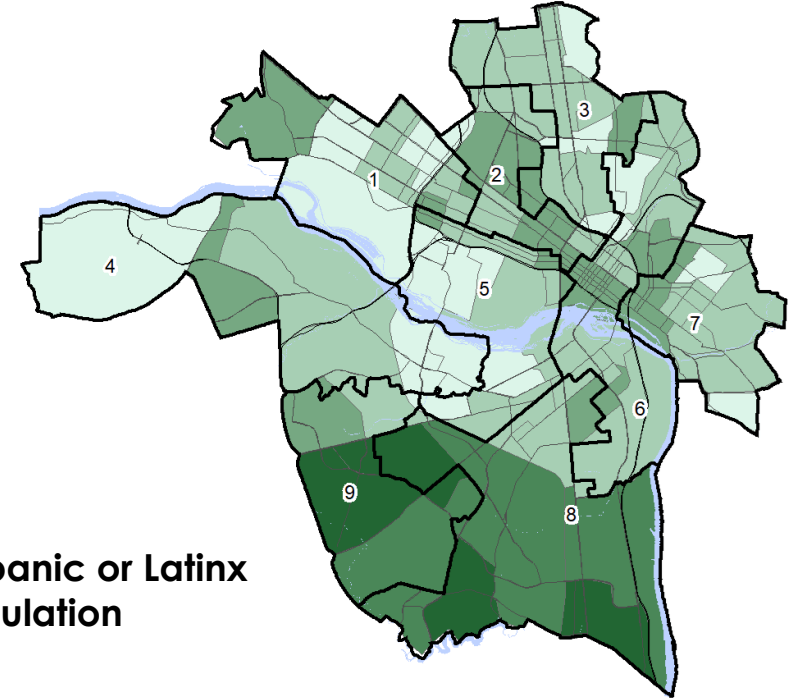


Source:
Government
Alliance for Racial
Equity (modified)

People of color face disproportionate impacts



Black or African American Population



Hispanic or Latinx Population

Centering Equity

Source: Government Alliance
on Race and Equity; Desiree
Williams-Rajee, Kapwa
Consulting (modified)

Racial and Socio-Economic Equity

Make a commitment to
correct past harms and
prevent future unintended
consequences

Address the underlying
structural and institutional
systems that are the root
causes of social and racial
inequities

Procedural

⋮

Create processes that are
transparent, fair, and
inclusive in developing and
implementing any program,
plan, or policy

Ensure that all people are
treated openly and fairly

Increase the civic
engagement opportunities
of communities that are
disproportionately impacted
by climate change

Distributional

⋮

Fairly distribute resources,
benefits, and burdens

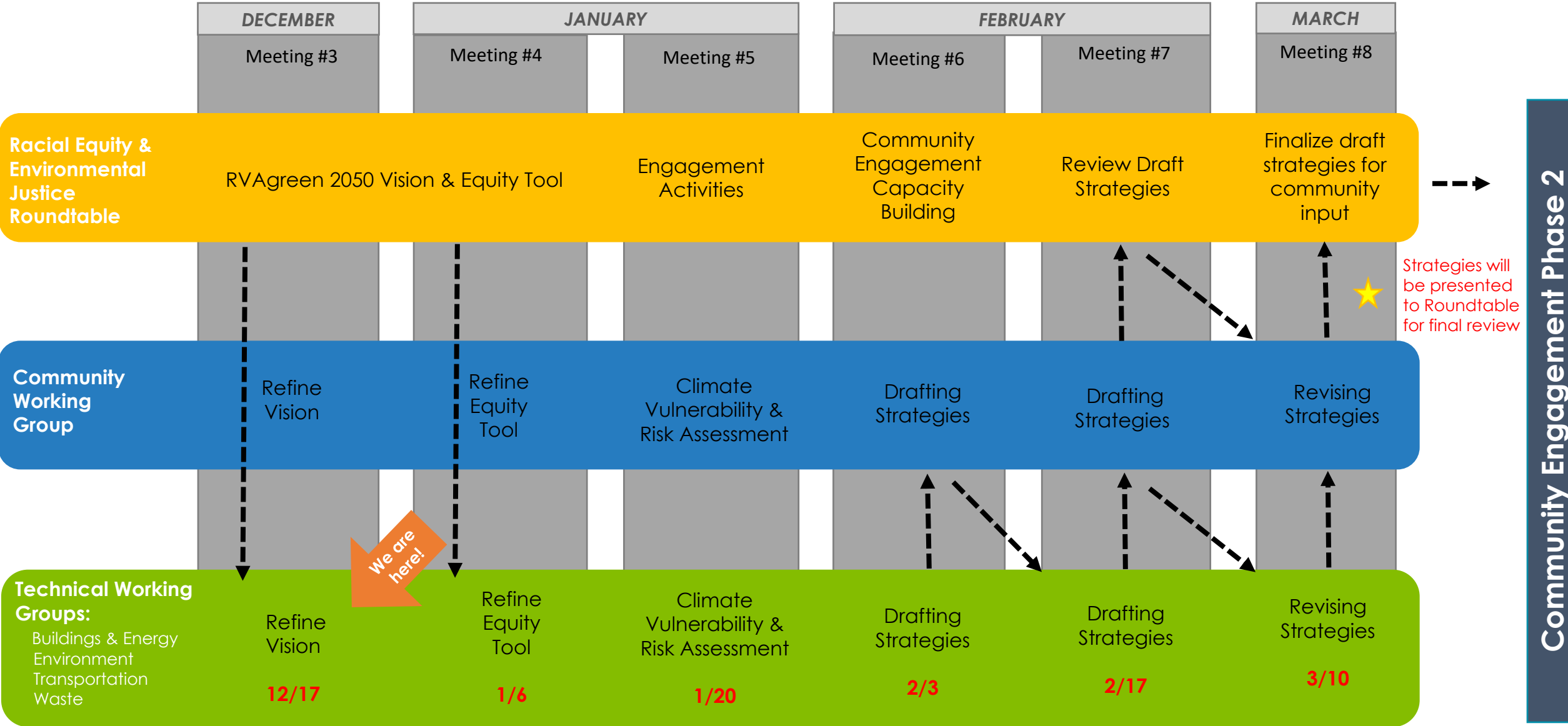
Prioritize resources for
communities that
experience the greatest
inequities, disproportionate
impacts, and have the
greatest unmet needs

Structural

⋮

Closing the gaps so race
and economic status can
no longer be used to
predict life outcomes and
outcomes for all groups are
improved

III. Workflow (December-March)



★ Draft strategies will also go to City Administration for review and feedback



IV. Vision Statement

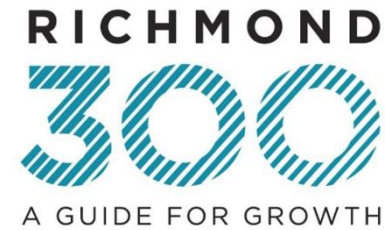


**What will Richmond look like when
RVAgreen 2050 is implemented?**

Foundations/examples

What is RVAgreen 2050?

RVAgreen 2050 is the City of Richmond's equity-centered climate action and resilience planning initiative to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and help the community adapt to Richmond's climate impacts of extreme heat, precipitation, and flooding. This community-wide initiative to develop and implement a roadmap of actions is using an innovative planning approach that centers frontline community members and works at the intersection of equity, mitigation, and climate resilience. **RVAgreen 2050 is equitable climate action for a healthy and resilient Richmond.**



Overall vision: In 2037, Richmond is a welcoming, inclusive, diverse, innovative, and equitable city of thriving neighborhoods, ensuring a high quality of life for all.

Thriving Environment vision: Richmond is a sustainable and resilient city with healthy air, clean water, and a flourishing ecosystem. Carbon emissions are low, air and water quality are high, and city-wide solid waste production is minimal. The City is positively adapting to the effects of a changing climate, with a built environment that enhances and protects natural assets, including the James River. All residents have equitable access to nature and a healthy community.

Foundations/examples

Portland: Prosperous, Connected, Healthy and Resilient, Equitable (each with vision statements)

Bend, OR: Neighbors, businesses, and community leaders working together to preserve our natural environment while promoting economic opportunity and resilience for current and future generations.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The City of Everett is a leader in climate action and the green economy.

We partner with communities and businesses to work toward carbon neutrality; sustain healthy, resilient, and livable communities; preserve the natural environment and a robust local economy; and enhance quality of life for all residents for generations to come.

The City of Providence's

CLIMATE JUSTICE PLAN

Providence's vision for a low-carbon future is one where your race or zip code no longer determines your health or economic outcomes. Where decisions are made collectively to allow those who are most impacted to have the greatest say. Where land stewardship is valued over ownership. Where access to clean water and land is not just a luxury for the wealthy, but a fundamental human right. This plan will set a path for Providence, but it is up to the residents and businesses in the City to make sure that we take it.

Foundations/examples

Q29 In a few words, describe your vision of equitable climate action for a healthy and resilient Richmond.

implement now trees cars help part renewable energy solutions affordable especially
actions go clean energy safe residents efforts including way work transition
creating efficient equitable climate action etc provide issues resources
green jobs reduce accessible focus see affordable housing equitable
good Improve access easier sustainable recycling green
incentives areas use neighborhoods future
Richmond education communities local city
without need think green spaces investing will
government people flood housing home food spaces live
problems climate change corporations building support public places
changes low-income energy jobs public transportation plan makes lead
everyone pollution increased prioritize infrastructure public transit businesses
great health kept programs class ensure care transportation private citizens income
environment new

DRAFT Vision Statement

The vision for an equitable, healthy, and resilient Richmond is one where carbon emissions are net-zero and a person's race, identity, socio-economic status, or zip code does not determine life expectancy, quality of life, or economic opportunity.

- Everyone has equitable access across the entire city to resources that are clean, sustainable, and affordable, including air, water, energy, housing, transportation, and green infrastructure.
- Everyone has the capacity and resources to take ownership of equitable climate action and community resilience planning.
- "Identity" includes but is not limited to: race, ethnicity, age, ability, gender, sexual orientation, and religion. We lead with race in our work to transform systems impacting all marginalized groups.*

*See City of Seattle, [Why Lead with Race?](#)

Breakout groups activity

15-minute discussion/review of the draft vision statement:

- Slide #1- Type what you like on the sticky notes
- Slide #2 – Type what you think is missing or don't like on the sticky notes
- Slide #3 - How do you see this vision being used to direct the focus areas of the Buildings & Energy working group?

Select one volunteer from each discussion group to report back and share feedback!

V. Group Check-In Discussion & Meeting Summary

- Did we learn anything new?
- What connections did we make?
- Do we understand why we're centering equity in our climate action planning?
- Any epiphanies you want to share with others?
- No such thing as a dumb question or statement...we're all new to this!
- Where could we offer more learning or focus meetings?

Please Share!

VI. Wrap Up & Next Steps

Homework!

- Add any additional feedback on vision statement in the [google drive](#)
- Revisit Seattle's "Why Lead with Race?"
- Re-read the equity tool draft content

Next meeting: January 6th at 11am

- Equity Tool

RIGHT NOW! Complete the feedback survey to help us improve for next time!

<https://forms.gle/Bj5znTadop34otsr8>

