AGENDA MATERIAL
DATE 12/2/25 ITEM NO. RA 22

Board of Supervisors Memorandum

December 2, 2025

Climate Action Plan for County Operations 2025 – 2030
& Implementation Plan

Background

On October 21st the Pima County Board of Supervisors considered the Climate Action Plan for County Operations (CAPCO) 2025 – 2030. The CAPCO ensures that the original priorities of Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations (SAPCO) – Carbon, Water, Landscapes, Materials and Workforce are retained in the CAPCO, with added expansion of adaptation measures such as Extreme Heat, Wildfire, and Invasive Species, and Community Resilience – specifically, climate and public health, workforce, economic impact, evaluation and engagement – demonstrating the connectivity amongst the climate and sustainability priorities within the plan.

On May 6th, 2025, the Pima County Board of Supervisors (BOS) adopted Resolution 2025-11 that sets the framework for the 2025 – 2030 CAPCO, the fourth climate resolution adopted by the BOS since 2017. The resolution, and the new plan also bolster our greenhouse gas emissions reduction effort to reduce our carbon emissions by 60% from 2021 levels to achieve Net Zero by 2050.

These priorities and strategies prepare our County to adapt to a changing climate, while prioritizing public health, social vulnerability, and economic vitality. The plan emphasizes direct action (and implementation strategies) to reduce Pima County's contributions to regional emissions and a rigorous emissions reduction goal for the upcoming five-years are included to align with the updated science-based target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 60% below 2021 levels, by 2030.

CAPCO 2025 – 2030 and CAPCO Implementation Plan

During the October 21st meeting, the BOS directed additions to the plan to include a **CAPCO Implementation Plan** building in baseline data, rigor in evaluation strategies, and multi-year activities to further strengthen the CAPCO. The new materials for consideration include an attached CAPCO Implementation Plan that takes each CAPCO chapter and clearly articulates baseline measures, departmental oversight, yearly activities and proposed quantitative and qualitative evaluation metrics where available. Many of the components will have substantial first-year planning activities, by which, this Implementation Plan will be updated regularly to reflect those outputs and outcome recommendations.

Another component of the CAPCO Implementation Plan is an estimated funding plan. The costs are built on existing budget estimates from the Integrated Infrastructure Plan, existing active grant awards, project costs, and estimates gleaned to-date from CAPCO planning already conducted. Of note, the funding component of the CAPCO Implementation Plan, is

based on current estimates that are malleable, based on budget availability, grant opportunities, and budget direction from the BOS and County Leadership.

The CAPCO Implementation Plan is intended to be updated at least annually and will reflect the outcomes and recommendations of the yearly activities, ensure the Board and County Leadership are able to act on sustainability priorities in a data-driven and strategic way, and create regular updates and opportunities to engage the community on the County's leadership in climate and sustainability action. These regular reviews and communication will inform and further refine budget alignment with those activities and venture to calculate cost benefits to infrastructure investments aligned with CAPCO.

The CAPCO aligns with other County-wide initiatives specifically, the County's 10-year Comprehensive Plan – Pima Prospers, Integrated Infrastructure Plan, Strategic Plan and BOS Policy E 36.2 - the Prosperity Initiative, to reduce generational poverty and improve community wealth, which includes a cross-policy strategy to address climate resilience in a way that prioritizes low-income communities and provides quality job opportunities.

The CAPCO Implementation Plan includes critical and valuable public input from community stakeholders, environmental and climate leaders and organizations across the community, and direct input and collaboration with the Pima County BOS offices. Collectively, the CAPCO and the Implementation Plan embody the County's commitment to climate action, regional climate priorities and critical action steps needed to achieve these goals.

Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors approve the proposed Climate Action Plan for County Operations (CAPCO) for 2025 – 2030, and the attached CAPCO Implementation Plan.

Sincerely,

Jan Lesher
County Administrator

JKL/anc – November 26, 2025

Attachment

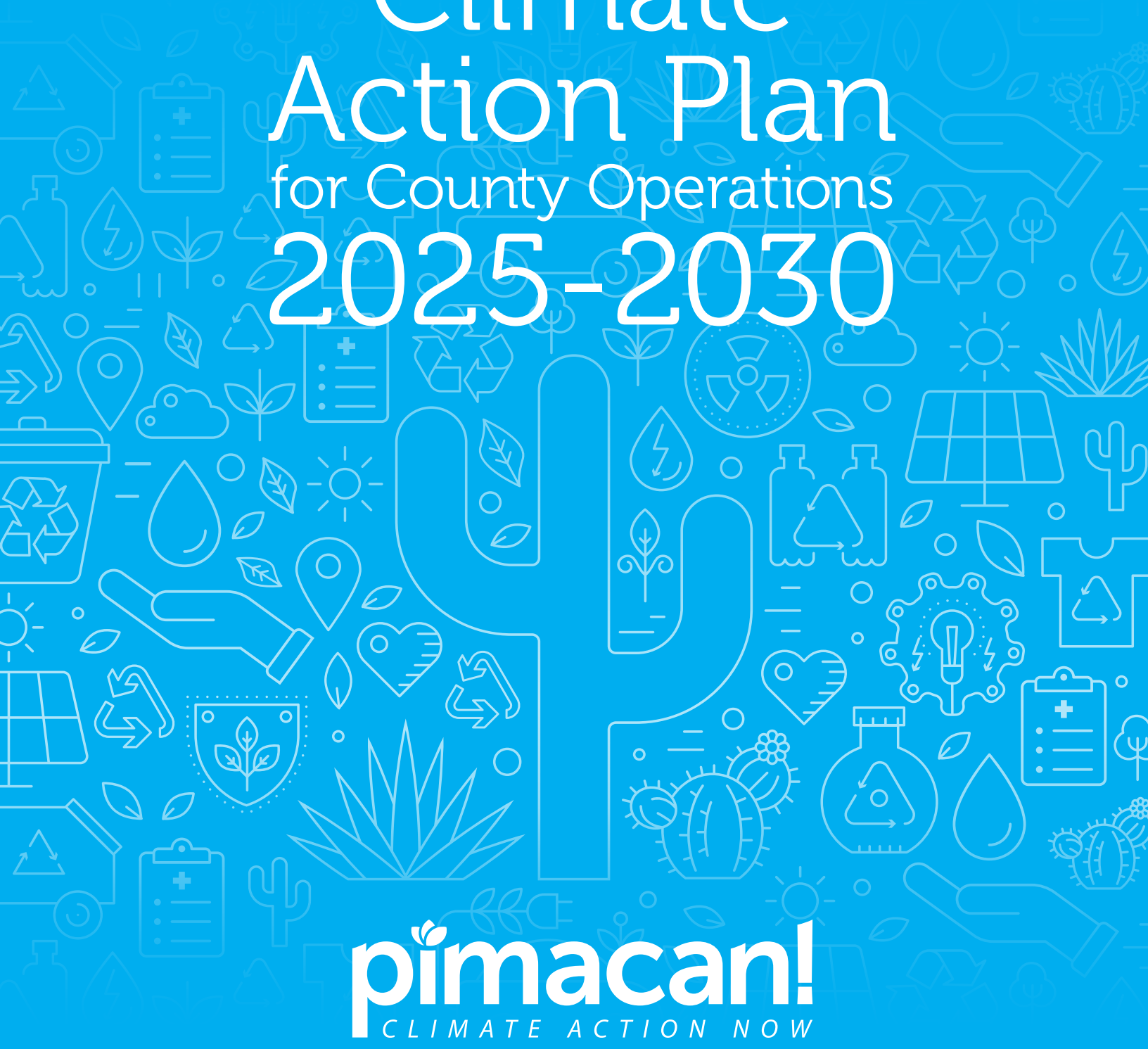
c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Sarah Davis, Senior Advisor, Pima County Administrator's Office

PIMA COUNTY

Climate Action Plan

for County Operations

2025-2030



pimacan!

CLIMATE ACTION NOW

OVERVIEW

PIMA COUNTY

Pima Climate Action Now! (PimaCan!) is Pima County's initiative focused on reducing regional impacts of climate change greenhouse gas emissions that drive climate change. It also aims to build long-term community resilience by helping residents, businesses, and ecosystems adapt to both current and future climate impacts. Through collaboration across departments and with regional partners, PimaCan! integrates climate action into county operations, planning, and policies that advance sustainability, equity, and environmental stewardship across Southern Arizona.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The 2025 – 2030 Climate Action Plan for County Operations (CAPCO) would not be possible without the steadfast support of the Pima County Board of Supervisors, the Pima County Administrator and Deputy County Administrators, and the leadership of Pima County Department Directors, key management teams, subject matter experts, liaisons, and sustainability stewards across the County.

This plan represents a demonstrated commitment to not only the predecessor of this plan - the Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations (SAPCO), and a two year planning period to expand the SAPCO into this five-year Climate Action Plan for County Operations. The collective effort demonstrates an enterprise-wide approach to climate action with interdisciplinary departments collectively designing the thoughtful approach to support the County's goals to reach Net Zero by 2050.

Participating Departments:

Pima County Administrator's Office

Pima County Department of Environmental Quality

Pima County Department of Facilities Management

Pima County Project Design and Construction

Pima County Regional Wastewater and Reclamation

Pima County Fleet Services

Pima County Department of Transportation

Pima County Regional Flood Control District

Pima County Parks and Recreation

Pima County Department of Development Services

Pima County Office of Emergency Management

Pima County Kino Stadium District - Kino Sports Complex

Pima County School Superintendent's Office

Pima County Office of the Medical Examiner

Pima County Health Department

Pima County Community Workforce Development

Pima County Economic Development

Pima County Conservation Lands & Resources

Pima County Information Technology

Pima County Communications

Pima County Attractions & Tourism

Pima County Grants Management & Innovation

Pima County Finance and Risk Management

Pima County Procurement

Pima County Public Libraries

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At a glance

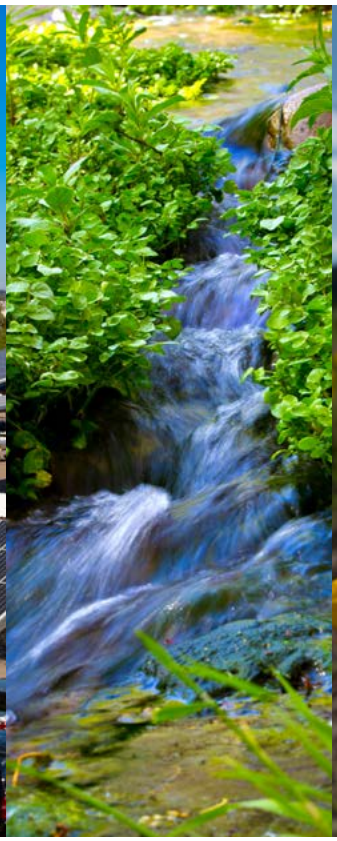
OVERVIEW

2025-2030 PLAN AT A GLANCE PimaCan! Climate Action Plan for County Operations Framework

This Climate Action Plan sets a framework based on long-standing commitment to climate and sustainability for Pima County – as a region, and through our operations. Herein are priorities, goals, strategies and tactics that prompt action to protect against our pressing climate risks – such as extreme heat, drought, extreme weather, wildfire and air quality. These priorities and strategies prepare our County to adapt to a changing climate, while prioritizing equity, public health, social vulnerability, and economic vitality. The plan emphasizes direct action to reduce Pima County's contributions to regional emissions and provides a rigorous emissions reduction goal for the upcoming five-years which aligns with the updated science-based target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 60% below 2021 levels, by 2030. This plan ensures that the original priorities of SAPCO – Carbon, Water, Landscapes, Materials and Workforce are represented in the CAPCO, with added expansion of adaptation priorities to respond to the growing threat of climate risk – such as Extreme Heat and Wildfire. This plan also demonstrates the correlation.

AT A GLANCE

The plan architecture sets each priority by chapter and uses evaluative data to frame the priority, set core areas (overarching impact), performance targets and evaluation measures (key performance indicators - KPIs). These priorities are underscored by community input, input from the County's Climate Action Teams, regional partnerships, stakeholder engagement through the Priority Climate Action Plan process, and priorities of County leadership and Board of Supervisors. Each priority section has dedicated working groups to ensure an 'enterprise-wide' approach to climate work and demonstrate shared commitment. Where there are new components, or KPIs yet to be determined, the Plan provides a means to create, adapt or modify the KPIs in subsequent years. This plan is intended to be adaptive, data-driven, and a collective approach to the County's Climate Commitment.


AT A GLANCE

Mitigation Measures – Mitigation efforts in climate planning reduce the impact of climate change on the planet & actively reduce the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Chapter 1 CARBON & ENERGY: Energy Use and Energy Efficiency across County Operations, Fleet, and Commuter Emissions; Reducing carbon-emitting waste

Chapter 2 WASTE & MATERIALS: Reducing waste across County Operations, and continued procurement of sustainable materials

Adaptation Measures – Adapting and adjusting to the effects of climate change, climate hazards and minimizing these effects.

Chapter 3 EXTREME HEAT: Adapting to the effects of rising temperatures, responding to the threat of extreme heat

Chapter 4 WILDFIRE & INVASIVE SPECIES: (and Wildfire Risk) Adapting landscapes to reduce the threat of invasive plants / grasses, and risk of wildfire.

Chapter 5 WATER: Water supply and conservation thereof, water reuse, and landscapes (adaptation and resilience)

Climate Resilience – Commitment to strategies that prepare for climate risks and ensure the ability to respond and recover in the event of adverse climate events, or overall changing climate landscape.

Chapter 6 LANDSCAPES: Protection of our natural areas, conservation lands, and urban landscapes investment in green infrastructure, water and food systems

Chapter 7 CLIMATE AND A RESILIENT COMMUNITY

Climate and Public Health Ensure that public health remains a core tenet of climate planning

Sustainability and Economic Development Enhance connection between economic vitality and climate planning and project implementation are a core component to climate efforts

Green Workforce Commitment to bolster workforce opportunities, preparedness, and education / training / engagement across the Pima County workforce

CHAPTER 1

Carbon & Energy

OVERVIEW

Through success from the long-standing commitment to carbon reductions realized during the SAPCO, the County has a strong path forward to realize an enhanced carbon reduction goal for the 2025 – 2030 CAPCO. In accordance with the Regional Pima County Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives – Local Government Operations Protocol (ICLEI LGOP) the County will align with the regional emissions reduction of 60% below the 2021 emissions inventory to reach Net Zero by 2050. Previously measured across three specific areas: County Facilities, Regional Wastewater and Reclamation, and Pima County Fleet - Pima County will include Pima County Commuter Emissions in its emissions inventory for operations. The County has demonstrated continued carbon emissions reductions and energy efficiency successes across its facilities, through fleet conversion, and innovative approaches to reduce emissions from wastewater and reclamation.

To achieve this goal, the County is relying on TEP to also meet the carbon reduction they have in their 2023 Integrated Resource Plan.

CHAPTER 1: Carbon

What is Net Zero?

A growing number of organizations, sectors, governments, and agencies are dedicated to setting goals to reach Net Zero by 2050. Reaching Net Zero emissions is when greenhouse gas emissions from human activity are in balance with emissions reductions – essentially, removing an equal amount of CO2 from the atmosphere as is released. Net Zero strategies include direct reductions in emissions – such as energy efficiency, renewable and clean energy investments (and scalability), and low carbon technologies, carbon removals and offsets – such as carbon sequestration, carbon sinks, greening and green infrastructure. It starts with understanding the emissions sources for the region and the organizational contributions. It also takes an understanding of the current emissions and volume of reductions required to get to Net Zero – for Pima County, that is 60% below 2021 levels for the Metropolitan Service Area (MSA) – and in alignment with that new target, Pima County operations will align its own emissions strategy to meet that 60% reduction for County Operations.

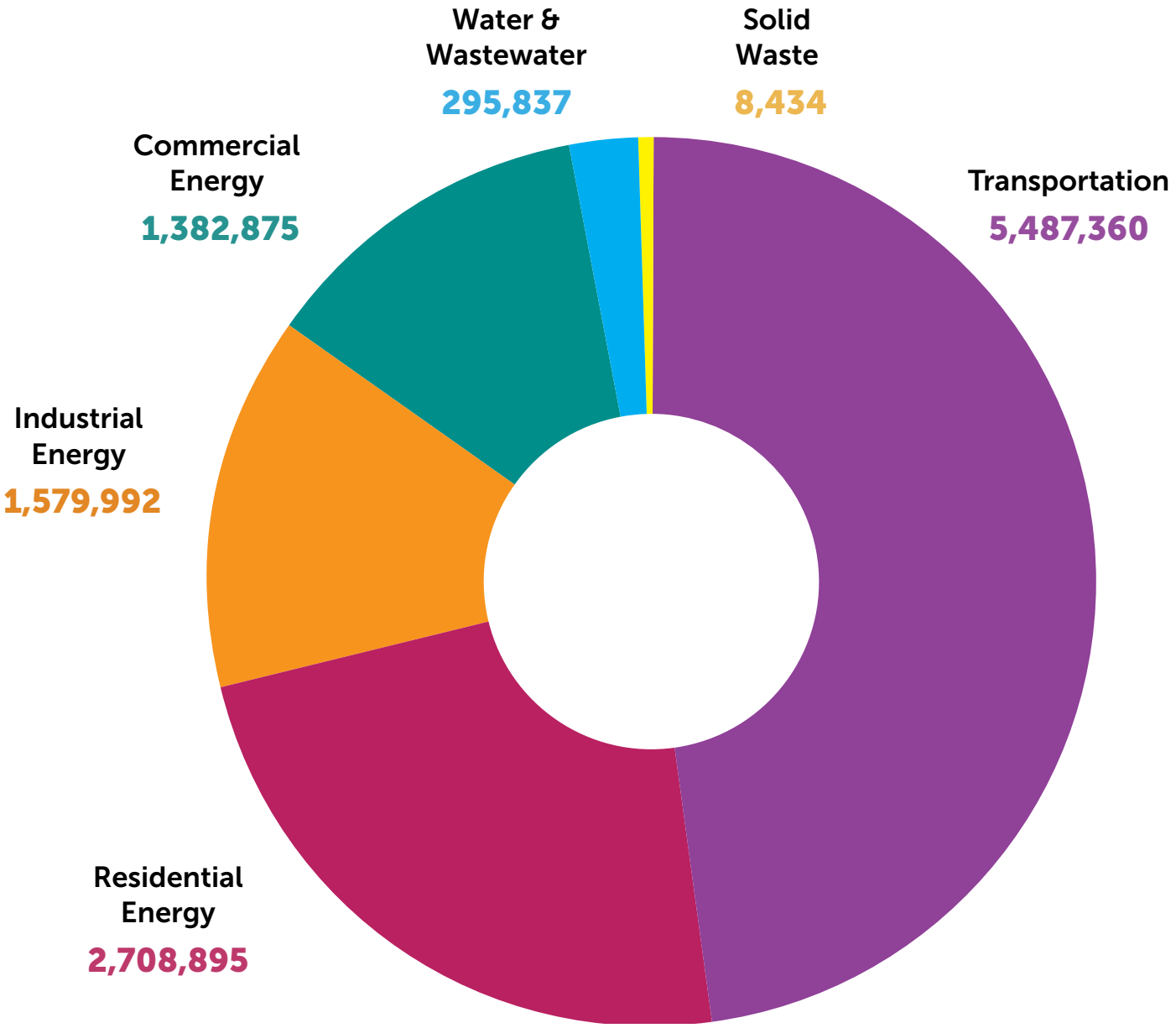
Regional Efforts and Pima County Accountability – Priority Climate Action Plan

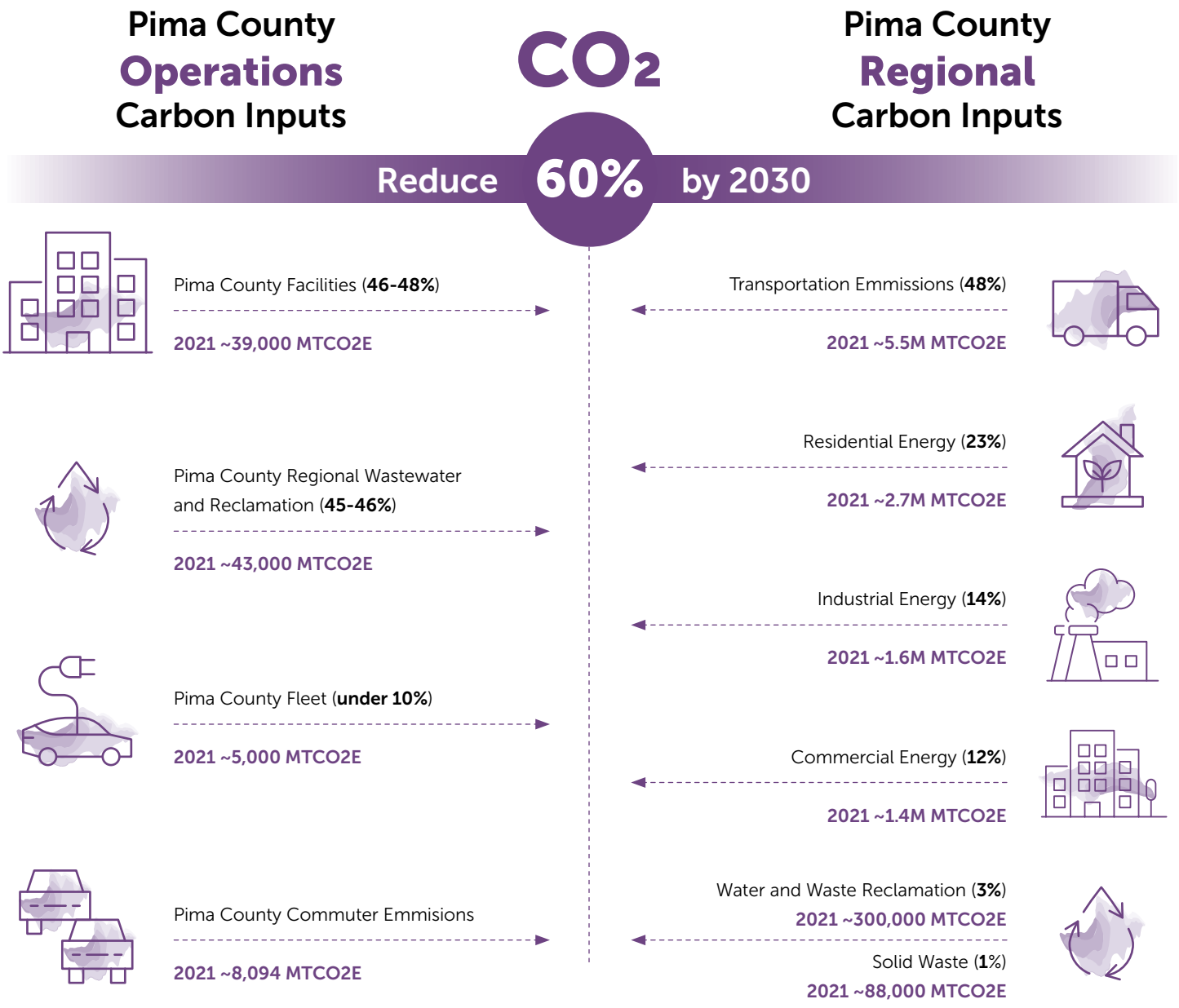
This effort is inextricably aligned with the regional effort governing the Priority and Comprehensive Climate Action Plans for greenhouse gas emissions – also within the PimaCAN! Effort. Through critical planning funds – Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the County-led Regional Coalition Partnership – including City of Tucson, Tohono O'odham, City of South Tucson, and Town of Oro Valley, and Pima Association of Governments (PAG) developed a Priority Climate Action Plan (and subsequent Comprehensive Climate Action Plan) to set forth the new targets for the region in emissions reductions – 60% below 2021 levels for all sectors in the region.

This planning effort included substantial public engagement and feedback gathering to determine climate and sustainability priorities and ensure planning efforts were aligning with the community, while rooted in goals that deliver cleaner air through reduction in harmful air pollution in places where people live, work, play and go to school; implement emissions reductions and accelerate the priorities that address environmental injustice and empower community driven solutions in overburdened neighborhoods, and tackle climate pollution while supporting the creation of good jobs and lower energy costs.

The regional 2021 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (data from PAG) details the regional GHG emissions by type. The shift to regional climate action planning for greenhouse gas emissions reductions set the framework by which this plan – the CAPCO - is designed – underscoring community input and design, partnership, and data-driven regional impacts.

PIMA COUNTY REGION – BASE YEAR GHG INVENTORY (MTCO2E)





County Operations Carbon Goals: Reduce carbon emissions across County operations in accordance with the ICLEI **updated carbon reduction targets of 60% below 2021 levels**. This goal aligns with the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan goal to reduce regional Carbon Emissions by 60% below 2021 levels. This reduction will be realized across County Operations in four distinct areas – **Energy Efficiency and County Buildings, Regional Wastewater and Reclamation, Pima County Fleet – and newly added, Pima County Employee Commuter Emissions**.

Core Areas: We will fulfill these goals by focusing on the following priority areas – **County Buildings and Facilities, Regional Wastewater and Reclamation, Fleet, and incorporate Pima County Employee Commuter Emissions**.

Lead Implementor: Pima County Facilities Management, Pima County Project Design & Construction, Pima County Regional Wastewater & Reclamation, Pima County Fleet Services, and Pima County Department of Environmental Quality

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

Reduces GHG emissions	Improves air quality	Saves money	Decreases landfill waste	Conserves energy

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
C.1 Buildings and County Facilities		C.1.1 Reduced MTCO2e emissions (Facilities)	C.1.1a Resource Management (inventorying, tracking and monitoring emissions and energy performance, in real-time, with the ability to make changes to systems C.1.1b Electrification (directly eliminate emissions, electric water heaters, heat pumps, boilers, and EV charging equipment) C.1.1c Onsite Energy Production (solar PV, solar hot water, ice storage, hydrogen, batteries, backup EV chargers) C.1.2a Energy Efficiency (tools for auditing, training for all staff, path to implement changes with positive ROI) C.1.2b Improve Energy Conservation Practices and promote energy use communications for behavior change	Reduces GHG emissions Improves air quality Saves money Decreases landfill waste Conserves energy
		C.1.2 Enhance Energy Efficiency		
C.2 Regional Wastewater and Reclamation		C.2.1 Reduced MTCO2e emissions (RWRD)	C.2.1a Equipment and Facility Upgrades that promote Energy Efficiency (such as technology innovation in aeration and ongoing energy efficiency projects at treatment plants); number of equipment and facility upgrades reducing (CO_2e MT) C.2.1b Improved Processing Efficiency (such as the use of technology to automate several RWRD processes) C.2.1c Continued beneficial use of Bio gas (annual volume of renewable natural gas (RNG) produced and related revenue generated)	

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES
C.3 Pima County Fleet		C.3.1Reduced MTCO2e emissions (Fleet)	C.3.1a Continue to replace eligible fleet with electric and hybrid vehicles; reach additional 30% of light duty fleet (60 Hybrid / EVs per year – 455 over the period) C.3.1b Continue to promote downsizing or converting large vehicles C.3.1c Assess impact of new fuel contract for bio diesel and impact C.3.1d Explore fuel efficiency in route planning
C.4 Commuter Emissions*	 ~20% Reduction Or determined after October 2025 Travel Reduction Program (TRP) Survey results	C.4.1 Enhanced Participants in Travel Reduction C.4.2 Reduced MTCO2e emissions	C.4.1a Engage all County Employees in PAG TRP annual survey C.4.1b Increase TRP survey response rate from 39% in 2024 to 80% in subsequent years C.4.2a Increase the number of alternate mode trips for employee work commutes, while reducing the number of drive-alone commute trips year over year C.4.1 & C.4.2 Develop and deploy new metrics and Strategies for CAPCO Year 2 upon completion of the 2025 TRP survey

CHAPTER 2

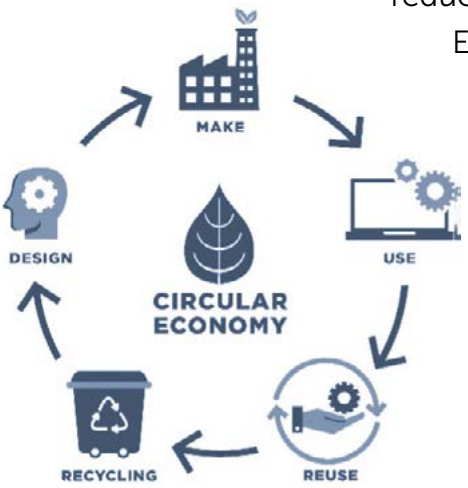
Waste & Materials

OVERVIEW

In alignment with Climate Mitigation strategies, the County is committed to bolstering its Waste and Materials strategies in CAPCO. Previously, and aptly, the County has prioritized goals in tonnage / landfill volume from County operations and Green Purchasing (through Procurement) of office products made from recycled material. As the County embarks on its 2025 – 2030 Climate Mitigation strategies, there are new opportunities to integrate waste and materials priorities through each of the core function areas of this plan. Reducing waste, procurement of sustainable materials, and exploration of new materials that positively impact our operations are integral to demonstrating commitment to climate work. This section of the plan is enhanced in connection with some of the work of the Regional Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) to better address the County Operation impact of greenhouse gas emissions associated with solid waste, and demonstrated commitment to sustainable material adaptation strategies

CHAPTER 2: Waste & Materials

Waste and Materials include product procurement, use, and disposal. Effective waste management positively contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, promotes local economies, reduces local pollution, and reduces the costs of disposal services. Education across the County workforce teaches strategies for at home or at work. Strong waste policy creates opportunities to advance circular economies programmatic approaches to waste ensure keeping materials and products in circulation as long as possible which delivers a higher value to users and taxpayers alike. A comprehensive program also teaches adaptive reuse, including training to plan for building materials and other large waste streams from events and capital projects. Broadly, the PimaCAN! efforts are focused on enhancing recycling, disposing organic material, and waste diversion on a systemic level.



County Operations Waste and Materials Goals: Reduce the volume of waste generated at Pima County facilities that is sent to the landfill; maximize the amount of waste that is recycled at Pima County facilities; create enforceable procurement policies that align with the County's goals of purchasing sustainable materials.

Core Areas: Continue procurement of the County's '**preferred materials' (recycled office materials) for office use**, continued **adoption of sustainable materials** (resources used in a way that minimizes negative environmental and social impacts throughout their entire lifecycle, from production to disposal). Sustainable materials are often renewable, biodegradable, or made from recycled content, with a low carbon footprint) across county operations. **Reduce volume of waste sent to the landfill** and **increase volume of materials sent to recycling facilities**. **Enhance strategies to promote reduction / reuse of materials**, workforce education around waste and recycling and circular economy practices at work and home.

Lead Implementing Departments: Pima County Procurement, Pima County Facilities Management, Pima County Department of Environmental Quality, Pima County Green Stewards

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
WM.1 Procurement of sustainable / recycled materials for offices	Increase the percentage of 'Preferred Products purchased by the County by 5% or more, annually **5%** INCREASE	WM.1.1 Percent of office supplies purchased are listed on Pima County's Preferred Product List	WM.1.1a Standardize product selection and purchasing practices to ensure sustainable materials are available for departments, within budget parameters WM1.1.b Conduct County-wide education to ensure practices are understood by the workforce	Increase the number of preferred products that are purchased by Pima County
WM.2 Procurement of sustainable materials for operations	Explore and implement new and innovative approaches to sustainable materials across County Operations	WM.2.1 Document and evaluate where there are innovative new sustainable materials to be used in County operations	WM.2.1a Evaluate across departments where there are innovations in materials, cost differences, and opportunities to leverage more sustainable materials across the full operation of the County	Increase the number of sustainable products being utilized for Pima County operations

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
WM.3 Reduction in tonnage of solid waste to landfill	Reduce volume / weight of solid waste that is sent to the landfill by 5% or more, annually 	WM.3.1 Volume / weight of landfill waste produced (tonnage)	WM.3.1a Standardized procedures for proper waste management within Pima County operations WM.3.1b Maximize the amount of equipment that is reused through the surplus process, where appropriate WM.3.1c Improve waste reduction education across departments	Reduces waste in landfill Reduces CO2e emissions from the landfill
WM.4 Enhanced volume of recycled material	Increase the volume of material that is recycled by 5% annually.  Recycle 100% of industrial waste by Pima County operations. 	WM.4.1 Volume / weight of materials recycled WM.4.2 Quantity of each type of industrial waste recycled (tires, car batteries, waste oil, waste metal, coolant)	WM.4.1a, WM.4.2.a Monitor and report volume of recycled office materials handled by contracted provider WM.4.1b Improve Waste Reduction and Recycling Protocols across departments WM.4.1c Educate Pima County employees about proper recycling protocols, ensuring they are aligned with Procurement contracts. *In accordance with the EPA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) laws and regulations*	Increase the number of sustainable products being utilized for Pima County operations

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
WM.5 Reduction in use of materials	Explore and implement (where appropriate) procedures that reduce waste	WM.5.1 Internal policies created to reduce the amount of waste that is generated by Pima County operations	WM.5.1a Design and develop strategies in 2026 to improve waste reduction and materials use, such as paperless systems and printing reduction strategies WM.5.1b Enhanced digital outputs for comprehensive plans WM.5.1c Reduction in the use of single use plastics and other disposable items WM.5.1d Create policies that better reuse office equipment and supplies	Reduces waste going to landfill and/ or recycling facilities
WM.6 Workforce education	Expand education and outreach across the County	WM.6.1 Workforce participation in Green Stewards educational events WM.6.2 Create clear communication tools on Materials, Waste and Recycling for Office Use	WM.6.1.a & 6.2.a Continue to grow Green Stewards content around Waste / Materials – across County departments, and in partnership with community leads	More informed workforce Alignment of personal and organizational values, increased retention and productivity, and positive impact on employee well-being

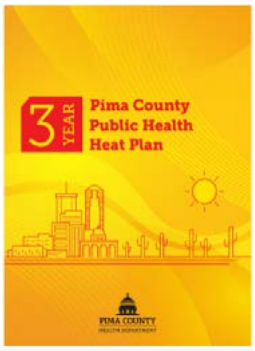
CHAPTER 3

Extreme Heat

OVERVIEW

The last five years have demonstrated increasing extreme heat patterns, with hotter days, longer heat seasons and steadily increasing temperatures. Between 2020 and 2024 there were three record-breaking summers, each eclipsing the historically high heat from the year prior. Extreme Heat is an urgent climate-related public health issue. It not only places significant strain on health systems, but also disrupts social and economic structures, often highlighting existing socio-economic disparities and the vulnerability of at-risk populations. It is anticipated that the region will continue to have longer, hotter summers in years to come. According to the Pima County Health Department (PCHD) in 2023, extreme heat caused thousands of heat related injuries and over one hundred heat-related deaths in Pima County, including increases in emergency department visits and emergency medical service activations. Extreme heat waves in Arizona pose the biggest weather-related threats to the population. Heat emergencies can be prevented with critical and life-saving protective measures, awareness, and resources.

CHAPTER 3: Extreme Heat



Local governments and partner agencies are already taking action to reduce human exposure to extreme heat. These efforts strongly support carbon reduction goals, offering dual benefits for our community- both environmental and public health. The connectivity of governments and partner agencies ensure that the region can prepare, adapt and recover from extreme heat seasons with fewer preventable heat-related deaths or emergencies.

On March 1, 2024, Governor Hobbs announced the state's 'Extreme Heat Preparedness Plan' and state-wide planning effort. Aligned with the plan's directives, county public health departments, cities, tribes, and community-partners in Arizona have directed their efforts to respond to extreme heat through comprehensive, equitable, and multi-sector planning. This includes enhancing cooling center networks, comprehensive and shared communication strategies to prevent heat related illness and injury, employing data driven public health response, and adapting safe, effective measures to support vulnerable community members.

Regional efforts were strengthened over the 2024 heat season to include a cooling center network with over three dozen cooling centers, bolstered (bilingual) communication campaign for heat safety, risks, and specialty messaging for vulnerable individuals and families (such as unsheltered community members, mobile home residents, heat protections for workforce - including first of its kind local heat ordinances and Administrative Procedures for workers in hot environments). Pima County was the first County in the nation to adopt a Heat Workforce Safety Ordinance, alongside partners at the City of Tucson and City of Phoenix. The 2024 Heat Season served thousands across the County through the cooling center network. The Heat Season response directly served vulnerable populations and leveraged real-time epidemiological data strategies, GIS mapping, and Medical Examiner data to enhance the services provided across the region.

The 2025 Heat Season further strengthened the network and the collaboration between multiple agencies, such as the City of Tucson, non-profit organizations, and academic partners. Strengthened partnerships have resulted in better data reporting and communication. 2025 served over 33,552 across the Cooling Center Network , illustrating how strengthened partnerships result in a more coordinated response.

Through this process, the Health Department (like other Adaptation Priorities) has its own 3-year plan directing specific priorities to Heat-related work, regionally. The Climate Action Plan for County Operations (CAPCO) will link to this existing work and champion the direct County-operations components of the Heat Plan priorities. The resources and activities outlined herein can be found at the County's Beat the Heat website – which include comprehensive tools for public use such as safety messaging, Cooling Center maps, and partner engagement.

County Operations Extreme Heat Preparedness Goals: To address the impacts and threat of extreme heat, we seek to engage in collaborative planning and resource allocation for heat relief efforts, planning and response; reduce the impact of extreme heat through targeted and data-driven interventions; and foster community resilience to extreme heat events.

Core Areas (CAPCO): Support the **growth and capacity building of the Cooling Center Network and heat relief initiatives; Heat and Workforce Protections, Green Infrastructure initiative expansion**.

Lead Implementing Departments: Pima County Joint Heat Action Team

Pima County Health Department, Pima County Administrator's Office, Pima County Libraries, Pima County Communications

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
H.1 Support and Expand Heat Relief Efforts	Continue to expand Cooling Center Network Capacity	H.1.1 Number of participating cooling centers	H.1.1a PCHD EMAP team to continue to collaborate, facilitate, and use data-driven modeling to set priorities for heat season and heat season report, providing an annual heat season evaluation report, as set forth in 3-year heat plan strategies. This CAPCO will support any growth or new priorities for heat network resourcing	Public Health and Safety Heat Preparedness and Adaptation
		H.1.2 Continued evaluation of Heat Relief Efforts and impact throughout heat season	H.1.2a Explore opening 1-2 dedicated 24-hour cooling centers, with a focus on equitable access, cross-agency coordination, and sustainable staffing models	
H.2 Heat Workforce Protection Efforts	Number of Heat Safety Trainings given to Pima County Departments	H2.1 Ensure all County Departments have a Heat Safety Plan per Administrative Procedure 35-3	H.2.1a Conduct heat safety training annually to County Departments and resulting from that training ensure that all departments update their heat safety plan	Public Health and Safety
	Number of Heat Safety Plans by Department		H.2.1b Support County departments in realizing opportunities to reduce heat exposure on work sites per AP35-3	

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
H.2 Heat Workforce Protection Efforts *(Cont.)*	Gather baseline data on Pima Heat Workforce Safety Ordinance	H2.2 Evaluate the Pima County Heat Workforce Safety Ordinance	H.2.2a Work with Pima County Procurement, Health Department and County Administration to develop an evaluation plan for the Ordinance passed September 2024 H.2.2b Continue to monitor progress from the State Executive Order and OSHA on workforce heat safety standards and report relevant policy and rule making changes / impacts and relevant safety, preparedness and compliance impact	
H.3 Green Infrastructure Investments	Increase number of GSI projects in heat priority areas	H.3.1 Number of Green Infrastructure Investments prioritized of total GSI projects / acreage that are in an area prioritized by Heat-relief data as in a heat vulnerable area	H.3.1a Bridge goals in Water and Landscapes chapter to incorporate public health data / review of heat vulnerability into the planned GSI investments highlighted herein CAPCO	Heat Relief Carbon Sequestration Urban Landscapes Native Landscapes Reduce Heat Island Effect
	Increase number of trees planted in heat priority areas	H.3.2 Increased tree canopy (aligned with Landscapes Chapter) in higher SVI areas / heat vulnerable	H.3.2a Use native plants and trees to support urban greening, green infrastructure and shading	

CHAPTER 4

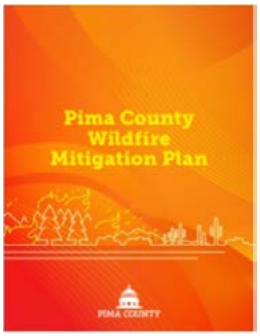
Wildfire & Invasive Species

OVERVIEW

In 2025, the Pima County Board of Supervisors approved the Pima County Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP). This plan embodies Pima County's enterprise-wide approach to wildfire prevention, mitigation, emergency response and readiness.

Wildfire and Invasive Species remain one of Pima County's largest climate risks. The connectivity between carbon emissions, increasing temperatures, drought and subsequent invasive species propagation concurrently results in substantial increases to wildfire risk. The WMP is a comprehensive plan that will operate as a flexible, annually updated, framework focusing on shovel-ready projects dedicated to the prevention of wildfire, mitigation of wildfire risk, public education, and emergency response for wildfire. This will be guided by and aligned with the broader Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) which establishes a longer 5–10-year vision. Together the CWPP and WMP ensure that long-term wildfire resilience is paired with immediate, measurable progress. The CWPP is scheduled for completion in June of 2026.

CHAPTER 4: Wildfire & Invasive Species



Climate-specific components of the WMP will be supported by the County's CAPCO – specifically, the bolstering of mitigation efforts, public communications and data / GIS mapping efforts. The leadership team overseeing the WMP are all members of the Climate Action Executive Team and the efforts are coupled to ensure investment and action.

Like extreme heat, wildfire season is no longer restricted to summer months, coupled with hotter and drier conditions fueled by climate change. Adaptation measures within this plan ensure that the CAPCO is coupled with strategic prioritization to best link the climate action work to the climate-related needs of the WMP. The CAPCO will incorporate the climate adaptation measures in the WPM, specifically the mitigation of invasive species, enhanced data and GIS mapping, and outreach and communication strategies to support the WMP.

Pertaining to Invasives and Mitigation strategies the WMP highlights overarching priorities and provide the foundation for an evolving approach to address Invasive Species / Grasses to include, but not limited to: identification of most important invasive plants to be targeted, alignment and expansion of data collection tools including GIS mapping and other data collection tools and methods across County departments and regional partners, and enhancing the capacity the regional partner network for the mitigation efforts and removal of invasives across the County. The County operations role in the mitigation effort for reducing wildfire risk and safeguarding the Sonoran Desert ecological landscapes are reflected through strategies herein.

County Operations Wildfire & Invasive Species Goals: Support and augment the WMP activities pertaining to Mitigation – specifically the County operations components of Invasive Species / Grasses remediation and data collection efforts and enhancements.

Core Areas: Mitigation of Invasive Species, Data and Mapping, Communication and Outreach

Implementation Team: Pima County Wildfire Executive Team

Pima County Administrator's Office, Pima County Office of Emergency Management, Pima County Regional Flood Control District, Pima County Conservation & Land Resources

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
F.1 Mitigation of Invasive Species	Number of sites treated for invasive / exotic plants (by department)	F.1.1 Document and increase acreage of land treated for invasive plants through targeted investments in high-priority areas	F.1.1a Develop an internal Administrative Procedure and Protocols reflective of the interdepartmental engagement and best practices for remediation	Protect Ecosystems
F.2 Enhancement of Data, GIS, Mapping Tools for Invasive Species and Remediation	All departmental participation in Pima County Data / GIS tracking tools	F2.1 Use current GIS capacity as a baseline, and expand data inputs, prioritization / risk tools, and active engagement in data / mapping tools	F.2.1a Through the Administrative Procedure, and WMP Departmental Leadership design a baseline, intermediate and best practice strategy for the mapping of invasive species / plants and associate remediation F.2.1b Couple this data GIS mapping efforts with Wildfire Risk Mapping to ensure treatment of priority areas – such as the Wildland Urban Interface F2.1c In alignment with region's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and the WMP - expand plans to include data on risk of invasive plants and correlation to wildfire	Protects Ecosystems, Landscapes, Public Safety

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
F.3 Communication and Outreach on WMP Strategies	Implement the WMP Communications Plan	F.3.1 Number of communication engagements	F.3.1a Enhanced communication planning and outreach to enhance public awareness and mitigation of wildfire – and connection to Invasive plants	Workforce / Public Education Wildfire Risk Mitigation
		F.3.2 Number of staff engaged in County-sponsored Invasive Species removal opportunities	F.3.2a and F.3.3a Engage County staff in Invasives Removal activities – through workforce education, engagement and activities	
		F.3.3 Number of employees attending training / Green Stewards forums	F.3.3b Create education opportunities through Green Stewards (or other training) on mitigation and risk strategies	

CHAPTER 5

Water

OVERVIEW

While our desert community has a track record of long-term water planning, climate change increases the need for water efficiency actions and water reliability planning efforts. With climate change comes increased heat, longer drought spells, loss of treescapes, larger flood events, and increased water use. Drought has diminished our already rare creeks and shallow groundwater dependent ecosystems. Nearby these vulnerable areas, private residences with small wells are also impacted and increasingly at risk. While there is a strong ethic for water conservation and desert adapted landscapes within Pima County operations and among the community, some parks, industries, golf courses, county facilities, and other landscapes continue consumptive uses of ancient groundwater and potable water resources. These are the issues that drive local resilience strategies.

CHAPTER 5: Water

Water initiatives are key to climate adaptation and mitigation. Sustainable water planning intersects with carbon mitigation by reducing energy-intensive water demands. The water resiliency actions engage carbon sequestration through protection and enhancement of green space. Water managers adapt to climate change by managing responses to drought conditions with strategies that best preserve ecosystems and conserve water. Water sustainability is bolstered through innovative approaches to enhancing and diversifying the local renewable water supply portfolio, such as the concepts of One Water, Net Zero Water, and multi-benefit goals.

The County has demonstrated a long-standing and successful commitment to sustaining and reclaiming water resources, conserving natural desert amenities, and enhancing greenspace infrastructure. The Water Working Group (WWG) embodies that commitment and will be responsible for carrying out a climate resilience focus for the water-related goals, tracking and evaluating metrics set forth in the CAPCO. The WWG is an interdisciplinary team representing Regional Flood Control District, Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD), Department of Environmental Quality, Facilities Management, Parks and Recreation, Development Services, and Conservation Lands and Resources.

County Operations Water Working Group Goals: To make an impact on climate mitigation and adaptation by investing in policies, programs and infrastructure that result in resilience of water for riparian ecosystems, a sustainable potable water supply through a diversified water supply portfolio, a long-term countywide water conservation ethic, reducing consumptive water use for ongoing sustainability, and supported community green spaces.

Core Areas: Augmenting groundwater and irrigation-water supply with stormwater; promoting the sustainable use of effluent; managing the demand for water both in County Operations and for community welfare and involving planning and partnerships between the County and other organizations working on water sustainability.

Lead Implementor - Water Working Group

Pima County Regional Flood Control District, Pima County Regional Wastewater & Reclamation, Pima County Facilities Management, Pima County Conservation & Land Resources, Pima County Parks & Recreation, Pima County Department of Environmental Quality

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
W.1 Augmenting Water Supply with Enhanced Use of and Recharge of Stormwater	Address vulnerable areas including where there is subsidence and dropped groundwater tables, heat islands, low park score neighborhoods, disadvantaged demographics, flooding impacts, and diminishing creeks In the long term, reach stormwater capture levels equivalent to the amount of new runoff created by streetscapes	W.1.1 Increase acreage of Stormwater projects and Green Infrastructure sites designed to promote recharge	W.1.1a Modify Detention Basins to promote recharge through retrofits or new sites W.1.1b Build Storm Water Parks where there is greatest need to increase access to cool green space W.1.1c Monitor Natural Recharge at Preservation Sites and constructed recharge in Basins / Stormwater Parks to inform and adopt initiatives	Restores deep aquifer when strategically located Resilience of shallow groundwater areas and dependent creeks and ecosystems Conserves water resources through beneficial use of stormwater for landscape irrigation Carbon sequestration and heat mitigation through increased green space
		W.1.2 Utilize wells dashboard to provide water resilience strategies & utilize RFCD Delta tool to identify suitable locations for stormwater capture and groundwater recharge	W.1.2a, 1.3a Evaluate locations that maximize the volume of stormwater that can be recharged considering geology, watershed conditions, ecosystem needs, and water quality	
		W.1.3 Net Zero calculations to track resilience in areas that don't receive imported CAP water	W.1.3b Partner with other jurisdictions and water service providers	

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
W.2 Promoting the Sustainable Use of Effluent	Enhanced multi-benefit use of reclaimed water on County and Community Sites Balance amount of regional aquatic/ meso/ riparian habitat lost to drought and increased water demands with river habitat gained through effluent flows and effluent irrigation	W.2.1 Increase quantity of County's allocation of reclaimed water that goes out to beneficial use with emphasis on high-demand users W.2.2 Identify interdepartmental, regional, and community opportunities	W.2.1a Increase the number of County landscapes that are using reclaimed water W.2.1b Continue reclaimed water recharge at existing sites and add new Ecosystem Restoration Opportunities W.2.2a Identify opportunities to expand reclaimed water systems to maximize beneficial use of County owned reclaimed water	Conserves potable and groundwater resources Addresses increasing demands Strategic recharge locations mitigate disconnect between locations of groundwater use and replenishment River recharge results in multiple benefits from cool, green space access to restoration of region's river miles

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
W.3 **Managing the Demand for Water both in County Operations and Community**	15% Reduction from 2024 County Operations Use  In the long term, reach net zero levels of single-use water across county operations, except where offset by recharge of local renewable supplies	W.3.1 Gallons of Water Used	W.3.1a Continue to inventory / replace fixtures with water efficient / low flow fixtures across County facilities – deploy low-flow plumbing fixtures W.3.1b Continue to Optimize Cooling Towers W.3.1c Sub-meter water systems during retrofits W.3.1d Invest in rainwater collection tanks and passive stormwater harvesting to provide irrigation W.3.1e Integrate Economic Development related water consumption in Environmental Reviews W.3.1f Implement Pima Prospers policy to conduct Water Supply Impact Reviews of proposed comprehensive plan amendments and rezonings larger than 4 acres	Water Conservation and Demand Management Workforce Education Opportunity

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
W.4 Promoting Water Sustainability, Innovation and Connection between Water and Landscapes	Water Supply Augmentation through partnerships, green infrastructure and connection to landscapes	W.4.1 Increase Acreage of Green Infrastructure investments with multi-use components	W.4.1a Utilize evaluations of locations to prioritize suitable GSI sites and expand approach to maximize multi benefits	Enhance Carbon Sequestration through Green Infrastructure
	Utilize RFCD Stormwater Park plan and the Retrofit analysis that is a component of the County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit to target most impactful opportunities.	W.4.2 Connect to 10,000 trees landscape goal	W.4.2a, W.4.3a, W4.4a, W4.5a Number of sites maintained for multi-benefit function using collaborative partnerships.	Natural and Urban Landscapes
		W.4.3 Capture Carbon Sequestered (CO_2e) as measured in the PC Climate Action Plan		Extreme Heat
				Food Systems
	Improve resilience though a diversified water portfolio by maximizing recharge and use of stormwater in order to minimize water dependence on energy intensive water imports	W.4.4 Acres of new restoration using renewable water	W.4.4a Stormwater harvesting to support mature trees	Regional workforce development
		W.4.5 Maximize percentage of Loop River Parks that utilize GSI to restore floodbank habitat and make tree shade more climate resilient	W.4.6a Outreach about drought responses the community can take	Community engagement and knowledge growth
	Mitigate habitat loss risks due to drought though natural stormwater infiltration enhancements and shallow groundwater recharge	W.4.6 Use PDEQ's annual survey, which includes a question that assesses GSI awareness, to measure outreach impact		Consumptive use of groundwater and potable water is offset through use of stormwater

CHAPTER 6

Landscapes

OVERVIEW

Connection of Water to Landscapes

There is a strong connection between water stewardship, diversification of water supply, and thriving landscapes – such as investment in stormwater capture and green spaces. By preserving our water resources, investing in green stormwater infrastructure, and restoring riparian areas, Pima County will reduce heat effects, protect native wildlife and vegetation, and secure a more reliable water supply for the community. By bolstering innovation within the nexus between water and land management, the County can create community climate resilience. Landscapes directly connect ecosystem protection, conservation and restoration of the Sonoran Desert. Healthy connected landscapes remain not only a commitment to the County's conservation efforts but represent essential climate adaptation strategies through protection of native species, removal of invasive species, reduction of heat island effects, investment in green infrastructure, preservation of water resources, food systems, and protection of our natural areas, conservation lands, and urban landscapes.

CHAPTER 6: Landscapes

The Landscapes core working areas are as follows: Urban Landscapes, Natural Areas, Conservation Lands and Food Systems. As highlighted in previous sections of the plan, landscapes, while its own chapter of the CAPCO, is inextricably linked to other chapters – **Carbon, Extreme Heat, Invasives and Wildfire, and Water**. Landscapes contribute to regional climate resiliency through shared net benefits of biodiversity, ecological restoration, carbon sequestration, water systems, and reduction of extreme heat impacts.

It is important to note that 2025 (the start of CAPCO) is also the 25th Anniversary of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan – which paved the way for protections of open space, conservation lands, multi-species preservation and protections of critical ecosystems in our region. The CAPCO will reflect actionable implementation strategies for Climate Adaptation and Resilience, while underscoring the critical foundational work and priorities set forth in the SDCP and the SAPCO.

County Operations Landscape Goals: Utilize and build upon the County's on-going protection and restoration of extensive healthy landscapes as a strategy for climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience. The goals herein not only protect and safeguard natural areas, riparian areas and cultural resources, they expand investment in green infrastructure, food systems and native plant protection.

Core Areas: The Landscapes section of this plan includes the following core areas: **Natural Areas** (includes geographic areas that are undeveloped and the ecosystems within them in Pima County), **Urban Landscapes** (urban areas by which Pima County has the authority in land use), **Conservation Lands (including preservation of Cultural Resources) & Food Systems**. It is important to note that this section of the CAPCO is directly linked to the Plans other mitigation, conservation, adaptation and resilience strategies. Linkages are noted throughout the implementation strategies.

Lead Implementing Departments: Pima County Conservation Land & Resources, Pima County Parks & Recreation, Pima County Regional Flood Control District

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
L.1 Natural Areas (CLR, NRPR, RFCD)	Conserve native wildlife, plants and natural areas (connects to CAPCO Water)	L.1.1 Acres of natural habitat conserved County acres protected within AGFD	L.1.1a Monitor the trends of groundwater ecosystems (WWG and CLR) L.1.1b Increase the total acres of natural areas conserved (CLR) L.1.1c Increase total acres protected within AGFD Wildlife linkages	Protects ecosystems Protects cultural heritage
		L.1.2 Linkages Miles of major riparian corridor added – see 'Water' section	L.1.2a Acquire riparian corridor parcels L.1.2b Increase linear miles of major riparian corridors added annually	
	Manage Natural Areas for Resilient Ecosystems (connects to CAPCO Wildfire priorities)	L.1.3 Wildfire prevention across conservation lands (connects to Invasive Species Treatment in 'Wildfire' Section of plan	L.1.3a Support the implementation of broader County strategies (such as Administrative Procedures and data mapping) to identify and remediate invasive species	
		L.1.4 Number of restoration projects (restoration or erosion, fencing, supplemental water for wildlife, treatment and prevention	L.1.4a Inventory restoration projects and monitor expansion of restored landscape	

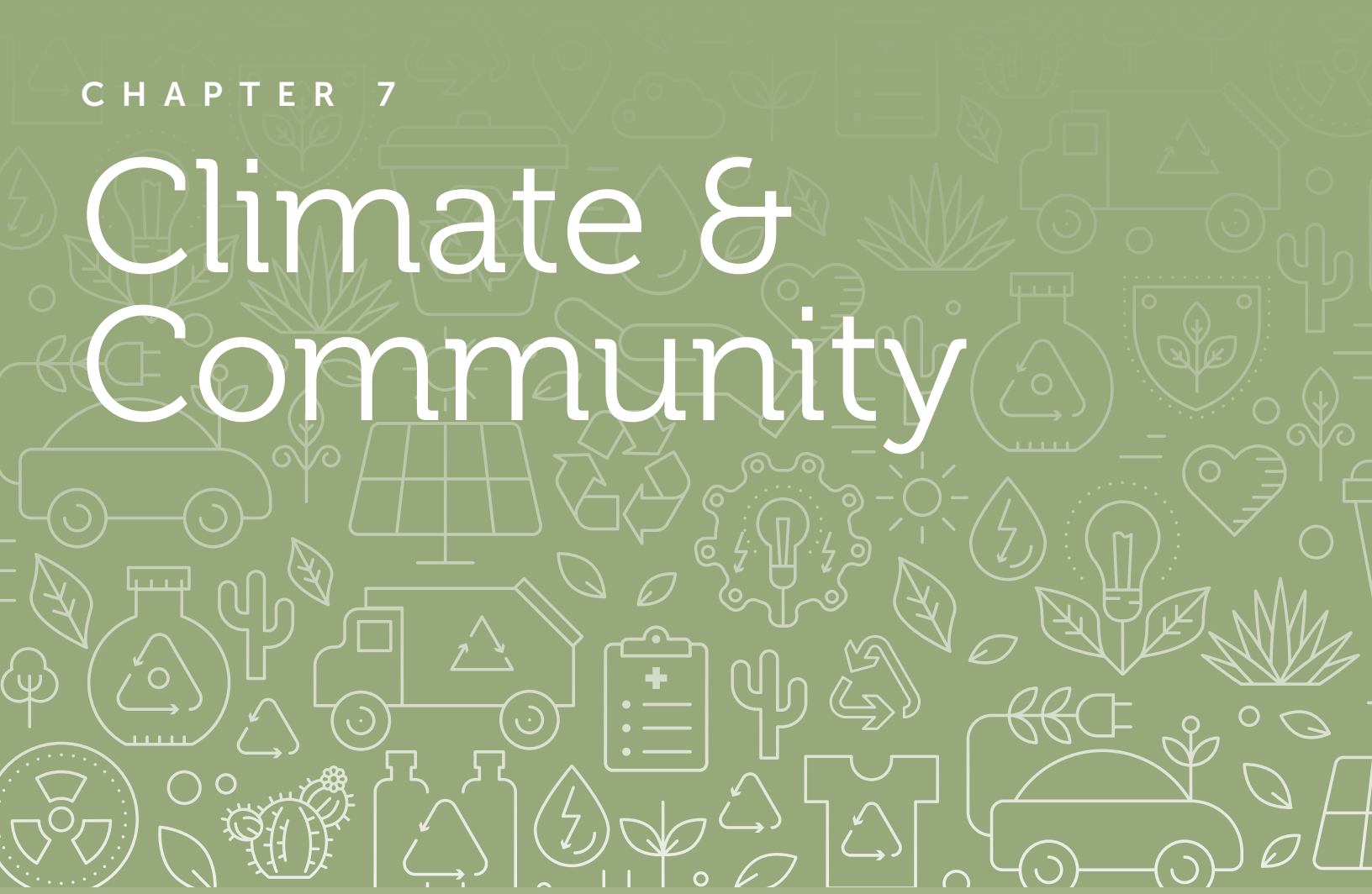
IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
L.2 Urban Landscapes	Plant at least 10,000 Trees	L.2.1 Number of Trees Planted	L.2.1a Develop strategies to integrate tree planting into appropriate departmental activities – specifically, Green Infrastructure Projects & County Operations. L.2.1b Develop 10,000 tree plan strategy (by year) in CY2026 across County Departments	Reduce CO2e Reduce Heat Impact Fosters a healthy and beautiful community
		L.2.2 Support Green Infrastructure Components of Water Priorities	L.2.2a Support and operationalize Green Infrastructure Investments identified in CAPCO Water and Heat Chapters L.2.2b At least 50% of plans for GI sites that are installed are obtained from the Pima County Native Plant Nursery	

CORE AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	BENEFIT
L.3 Food Systems	Maintain healthy grasslands and working ranches	L.3.1 Number of Acres – Ranchland managed	L.3.1a Continuing rangeland inventories, monitoring and assessment L.3.1b Continue applying management practices to provide for ecosystem health	Supports Food Security Protect Ecosystems Fosters a healthy and beautiful community
	Invest in Food Systems Development and Access			
	Farmland Preservation		L.3.1c Track and report County acres under cattle grazing leases	
		L.3.2 Number of Acres – working ranches / farmland	L.3.2a Continued growth / preservation of farmland sites such as Buckelew Farms	
			L.3.2b Identify opportunities for County farmland connectivity to county-wide food systems opportunities	
			L.3.2c Promote and expand urban and natural area farming	
	Food Systems Priorities and County Engagement Thereof – Engagement strategies developed for 2026	L.3.3 Work with Partners in Food Systems – such as, but not limited to Pima Extension, University of Arizona, Pima County Food Systems Alliance, Community Gardens, Farmers and Food Hubs to evaluate a role for Pima County	L.3.3a Collaborate with Public Health on food systems access – such as heritage food systems, food access, nutrition programs, and food deserts L.3.3b Collaborate with Attractions and Tourism, to promote and engage food heritage sites and City of Gastronomy designation	

CHAPTER 7

Climate & Community



OVERVIEW

Climate Resilience is the ability to prepare, adapt and recover from climate-related hazards that most affect the region. This includes public health, social, and economic impact of climate change. The framework of this plan sets forth the data-driven and modeled climate risks for Pima County and associated actions that the County can take in each priority – to mitigate, adapt and foster a climate resilient community.

Climate Resilience is rooted in the Guiding Principles of this plan: social well-being, environmental protection, and economic vitality. These guiding principles are underpinned with accountability, data-driven and practical modeling for climate investment, and leading by example. Environmental stewardship, public health and economic growth are core tenets to how the County will model climate action work to ensure the priorities are simultaneously bolstering vulnerable populations, empower community-driven solutions, and embody sustainability practices at our Pima County sites and across our services.

In summary, the following priorities will be folded into each element's chapters, strategies and tactics. Additionally, there is opportunity to grow each of these resilience components as a lens by which we reflect on this work.

Public health

Public Health plays a significant role in sustainability and climate action. The Pima County Public Health Department plays a lead role in our Extreme Heat response, and is a leader in the Climate Action Team. Over the next five years of this plan, the Public Health strategies can continue **to help the County understand data-driven and epidemiological climate risks through a public health lens and ensure that our strategies, tactics, projects and evaluation continue to positively affect the public health of Pima County**. Over the CAPCO period, the Climate Teams will continue to integrate public health data into our overarching priorities and demonstrate continued alignment of public health data with our implementation strategies, opportunities and evaluative measures.

Economic vitality and environmental stewardship

Climate and sustainability work is directly correlated to economic vitality in the region. Climate and sustainability priorities and strategies can promote cost savings, enhance partnerships with economic initiatives and industries, and demonstrate shared commitment across the region to safeguard the environmental impact and sustainability of economic development projects. The **Pima County Board of Supervisors recently adopted BOS policy 31.4 for Enhanced Due Diligence Process for Pima County Economic Development Projects which underscore environmental reviews in economic initiatives**. This policy includes reviews for air, water, energy, land, and public health impact to community and demonstrates a strengthened commitment to environmental stewardship. Over the CAPCO period, Economic Development, an engaged member of the Climate Team, will integrate the outputs of these reviews into the CAPCO reporting and evaluation, partnership and growth of environmental reviews across our growing economic opportunities.

Community and Regional Workforce Opportunities

Pima County is committed to workforce development, opportunity and innovation. In a collaborative approach with Community Workforce Development (CWD), the County's regional climate action plan workforce analyses, and **shared goals of fortifying the workforce pipeline to encourage continued economic growth in sustainability work**. Connection to workforce in climate and sustainability support training, apprenticeship and skilled trades programming which not only support individuals and economic stability but bolsters the community investment in the workforce pipeline. This investment also encourages regional infrastructure projects, and capacity building for future labor demands. This investment in people directly translates to stronger neighborhoods, reduced barriers to employment, and shared economic growth across Pima County.

Bolstering the County Workforce: The Green Stewards is a voluntary collaborative working group comprised of representatives from various departments who are dedicated to promoting sustainability across Pima County operations and in the community. They collaborate on initiatives and provide county-wide leadership in alignment with focused activities of the Climate Action Executive Team and the Climate Advisory Committee led by the County Administrator's Office.

This mission - to educate and empower Pima County employees to adopt sustainable practices in their personal and professional lives, and address climate change through local action and impact on a healthier and more sustainable environment will be paramount for staff engagement, training and education opportunities. Green Steward employees directly help to uplift the community and contribute to a more resilient future as actioners and community role models for sustainable living.

Data & Communication

Climate Action work is dependent on the ability to **collect, evaluate and present data timely, and build the capacity to model associate impacts with climate and sustainability investments**. Similarly, every priority within this plan is dependent on critical communications, accessibility of information which drives methods of engagement. Over the CAPCO period, the County has been committed to building more data and communications strategies for County and public involvement / engagement.

PIMA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors

Rex Scott, *Chair*, District 1
Jennifer Allen, *Vice Chair*, District 3
Dr. Matt Heinz, District 2
Steve Christy, District 4
Andrés Cano, District 5

Pima County Administrator

Jan Lesher

PIMA COUNTY

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PIMA COUNTY

CAPCO
Implementation Plan

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CLIMATE ACTION NOW

Chapter 1. Carbon — Climate Strategy: Mitigation

Chapter 1 Goal – In accordance with the Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) updated carbon reduction proposed target, reduce carbon input by 60% from 2021 levels across Pima County carbon input priority areas: Buildings and County Facilities, Regional Wastewater and Reclamation, Fleet and to now include Pima County Commuter Emissions.

Measurement Inputs and Core Areas: County Buildings and Facilities, Regional Wastewater and Reclamation, Fleet, Commuter Emissions

Emissions: County Buildings & Facilities, Regional Wastewater and Reclamation, Fleet Services[1]

FY2021	**96,272 (MTCO2e)**
FY2024 Baseline	**69,122 (MTCO2e)**
60% Reduction from FY2021 Emissions NEW 2030 Goal	**38,509 (MTCO2e)**

Reducing by 60% from FY2021 levels reflects a total reduction of 57,763 (MT CO2e). Pima County demonstrated substantial emissions reductions across the previous Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations (SAPCO 2018 – 2024), in conjunction with Tucson Electric Power's (TEP) efforts to increase renewable energy sources. In closing FY 2024 emissions measurements at 69,122 (MT CO2e), the County has 30,613 MT CO2e left to reduce to meet the 60% goal. Pima County Operations need to reduce its emissions across Buildings and Facilities, Wastewater and Fleet by ~31,000 MT CO2e over the 2025 – 2030 CAPCO period – an estimated average of 6,122 MT CO2e, annually. To meet this goal, the County is relying on TEP to remain focused on maintaining the net-zero emission goal in their Integrated Resource Plan.

1 The County will use ICLEI ClearPath for emissions tracking. Baseline emissions us the ICLEI ClearPath 1.0 model, and these baseline calculations will be updated with the new ICLEI ClearPath 2.0 upon its release. Improvements in data inputs might slightly update our baseline emissions over the CAPCO.

CAPCO Baseline for Emissions[2] [3]

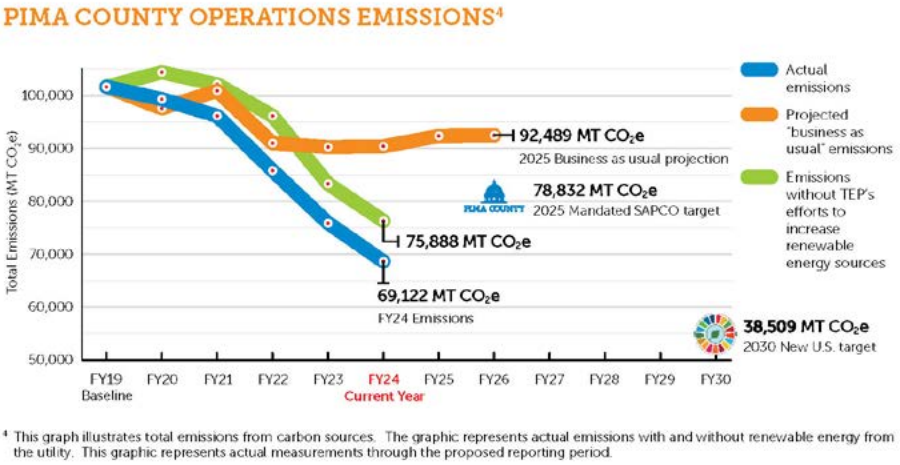
Buildings and Facilities	**FY 2024 Baseline: 31,572 (MTCO2e)**
Regional Wastewater and Reclamation	**FY 2024 Baseline: 32,102 (MTCO2e)**
Fleet Services	**FY 2024 Baseline: 5,447 (MTCO2e)**
***Commuter Emissions*[4]**	***FY2024 Baseline: 9,669 (MTCO2e)***

CAPCO Baseline for Solar / Renewable Energy Generation

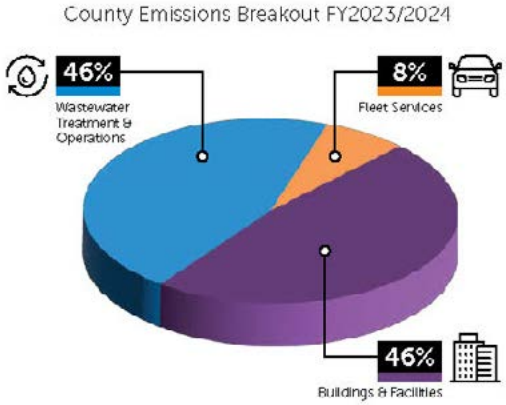
36 implemented solar projects across County Facilities and Leased Properties - generating 17,582,419 kWh

CAPCO Baseline for TEP Energy Credits[5]– Go Solar Shares (TEP Community Solar)

38 County sites - generating 7,731,000 kWh[6]



[4] This graph illustrates total emissions from carbon sources. The graphic represents actual emissions with and without renewable energy from the utility. This graphic represents actual measurements through the proposed reporting period.



2 Baseline is reflected from previous formal measurement reported in the closeout of the 2018 – 2024 Sustainable Climate Action Plan for County Operations (SAPCO), the predecessor to the Climate Action Plan for County Operations (CAPCO)
3 Pertaining to Emissions Scopes 1,2,3: ICLEI's USA's U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting of GHG Emissions does not use scopes as a framework for categorizing emissions because the organization-related definitions of scopes for corporate accounting do not translate to the community scale in a manner that is clear and consistently applicable as an accounting framework. The County is using ICLEI for emissions reporting standard protocols.
4 Commuter Emissions Data for 2021 was calculated during the COVID-19 Pandemic, as a Baseline for CAPCO the Climate Teams agreed to use 2025 TRP survey data and 2024 data as a baseline more reflective of current commuter emissions behavior
5 Go Solar Shares Agreement signed with Pima County in 2012 and 2016
6 Pima County's Emissions Goals and Renewable Energy commitment are split between onsite generation and TEP Energy Credits through Go Solar Shares. The TEP commitment and Go Solar Shares directly impact the County's ability to meet emissions and clean energy goals.

Carbon – Implementation and Work Plan Timeline

Carbon Working Group Department Leads: *Pima County Facilities Management, Pima County Project Design and Construction, Pima County Fleet Services, Department of Environmental Quality, Pima County Administrator's Office*

Carbon Core Area 1 (C.1) – County Buildings and Facilities

C.1 Carbon Energy Strategies

Performance Measure

C.1.1 Reduced MTCO2e in Emissions Across County Buildings and Facilities (60% from 2021 levels – to 38,509 MTCO2e by 2030)

C.1.2 Enhance Energy Efficiency

Evaluation Metric Goal for County Buildings and Facilities – Estimated overall reduction in emissions between 2025 – 2030 of 14,445 MTCO2e the estimated proportion of total MTCO2e emitted by the County's Buildings and Facilities (average annual reduction of 2,891 MTCO2e – if annualized)

Implementation Strategies[7]

C.1.1 Reduced MTCO2e in Emissions Across County Buildings and Facilities (60% from 2021 levels – to 38,509 MTCO2e by 2030)

7 Proposed strategies emerging from Year 1 onward will be reflective of specific opportunities across the County Facilities portfolio location (e.g., downtown buildings would have action plans reflective of space utilization and greater emphasis on energy efficiency, whereas the Ajo corridor has larger opportunity for expanded renewables onsite – details thereof would be reflected in the resource management component of this chapter)

C.1.1a Resource Management (Year 1)

Audit and Inventory the County facilities and building portfolio. This full documentation will include use of County databases and datasets (such as EnergyCAP) by which our energy, utility payments and inventory of energy efficient fixtures and equipment are managed. Provide an energy-specific update on energy use and cost across our County facilities portfolio, by emissions / energy use type. This will include recommendations on targeted energy-efficiency projects, renewable investment opportunities, and / or facility fixture and equipment recommendations that the County can implement in alignment with the Integrated Infrastructure Plan.

C.1.1b Electrification, C.1.1c Onsite Energy Production (Year 2 – 5, with annual updates based on Year 1 findings)

Based on the full resource management effort conducted in Year 1, the County will be positioned to improve resource management, specifically - inventory, track, and monitor emissions and energy performance in real-time with the ability to make changes to systems and targeted recommendations for electrification projects, and onsite energy production.

Ensure that there is a comprehensive list of projects that can be incorporated across the years of the CAPCO, **as County budget allows**, and is aligned with the County's Integrated Infrastructure Plan. Implement the current queue (queue as of Year 1 of CAPCO) of 7 solar installation projects and explore the Leased Properties sites that want to implement solar on their properties.

C.1.2 Enhance Energy Efficiency

C.1.2.a Energy Efficiency Tool – Inventory / Audit (Year 1)

In alignment with the overall Resource Management effort in C.1.1a, create a comprehensive inventory of energy efficient fixtures, equipment and utilize tools for tracking the County's energy efficient equipment, performance and cost impact (such as return on investment / savings for energy efficiency)

C.1.2.b Improve Energy Conservation Practices (Year 1 – 5)

Energy use and efficiency opportunity are coupled in concert with conservation practices across our County buildings and facilities. Over the course of the CAPCO period, the County will monitor and use communication tools around energy use / savings opportunities that all County employees can engage with – examples include, but are not limited to, facility temperatures, energy use by building and / or across departments, and incorporating energy saving fixtures.

Core Area 2 (C.2) – Regional Wastewater and Reclamation Department (RWRD)

Performance Measure

C.2.1 Reduced MTCO2e in Emissions Across Pima County Regional Wastewater and Reclamation

Evaluation Metric Goal for RWRD – Estimated overall reduction in emissions between 2025 – 2030 of 17,475 MTCO2e the estimated proportion of total MTCO2e emitted by the County's RWRD Operation (average annual reduction of 3,495 MTCO2e – if annualized)

Implementation Strategies

C.2.1 Reduced MTCO2e in Emissions Across Pima County Regional Wastewater and Reclamation

C.2.1a Equipment and Facility Upgrades (Year 1 – already in progress and implementation status) $

RWRD has already embarked on budgeted projects in FY 2025 /2026 and realized carbon emissions reductions prior to the SAPCO completion. These projects include technology improvements in aeration and innovative energy efficiency strategies – by the end of Year 1, there will be a full list / number of equipment and facility upgrades that reduce MTCO2e and proposal for ongoing investments over Year 1 – 5.

C.2.1b Improved Processing Efficiency (already occurring and budgeted)

RWRD has integrated technology and AI to automate several RWRD processes and will report those emissions reductions regularly over the 5-year period

C.2.1c Continued Beneficial Use of Biogas (already occurring and budgeted)

RWRD will report on the annual volume of renewable natural gas (RNG) produced and the related revenue generated.

Core Area 3 (C.3) – Fleet Services

Performance Measure

C.3.1 Reduced MTCO2e in Emissions Across Pima County Fleet

Evaluation Metric Goal for Fleet – Estimated overall reduction in emissions between 2025 – 2030 of 865 MTCO2e the estimated proportion of total MTCO2e emitted by the County's Fleet Operation (average annual reduction of 173 MTCO2e – if annualized)

Implementation Strategies

C.3.1 Reduced MTCO2e in Emissions Across Pima County's Fleet Services

C.3.1a Continue to replace eligible fleet with electric and hybrid vehicles to reach an additional 30% of light duty fleet (60 Hybrid / EVs per year – 455 over the period)

C.3.1b Continue to promote downsizing or converting large vehicles

In Year 1 continue to gather data and create an evaluation of overall County operations and where certain departments or services cannot convert (or find difficulty in conversion) and / or if departments are able, determine budget need for Year 2 – 5.

C.3.1c Assess the impact of new fuel contract for biodiesel and impact (already implemented and budgeted)

In Year 1, report on the impact of this contract and impact on County Fleet operations.

C.3.1d Explore fuel efficiency in route planning

In Year 1 – 2 determine applicability of an Administrative Procedure or best practices education program on route planning and subsequent cost / emissions impact of behavior and planning for route efficiency.

Core Area 4 (C.4) – Commuter Emissions (new)

Performance Measure

C.4.1 Reduced MTCO2e in Emissions Across Pima County Employee Commuting

Evaluation Metric Goal for Pima County Employee Commuting Emissions – This is a new indicator that will be measured by CAPCO. The County would like to increase participation in the Travel Reduction Program (TRP) Survey over the 5-year period; increase annually the number of alternate mode trips for employee and work commutes; and reduce the number of drive-alone commute trips, annually. It is estimated that the overall reduction in emissions for those activities would net a 20% reduction in emissions

Implementation Strategies

C.4.1 Enhanced Participation in the Travel Reduction Program Survey

C.4.1a Engage all County Employees in Pima Association of Governments TRP Survey. (already budgeted)

Annual communication and engagement leading up to the TRP survey with Pima County Communications

C.4.1.b Increase TRP Survey Response rate from 39% in 2024 to 80% over subsequent years (no cost)

Historically, the County's participation has been about 39%. We would like to increase to over 50% and continue increasing that participation rate annually with a goal of 80% by end of CAPCO period.

C.4.2 Reduced MTCO2e from Commuter Emissions

C.4.2a Increase the number of alternate mode trips (such as, but not limited to bicycling, carpooling) **for employee work commutes while reducing the number of drive-alone commute trips, annually.**

C.4.1c & C.4.2b Deploy New Strategies Based on Enhanced TRP participation

In Year 2 and onward with increased participation in TRP, deploy updated metrics and strategies for TRP emissions estimated reductions

Chapter 2. Waste and Materials — Climate Strategy: Mitigation

Chapter 2 Goal – Reduce the volume of waste generated at Pima County facilities that is sent to the landfill; maximize the amount of waste that is recycled at Pima County facilities; create enforceable procurement policies that align with the County's goals of purchasing sustainable materials.[8]

Measurement and Core Areas: Reduce the **volume of waste** generated at Pima County facilities that is sent to the landfill; **maximize the amount of waste that is recycled** at Pima County facilities; create enforceable **procurement policies** that align with the County's goals of purchasing sustainable materials.

CAPCO Baseline[9] FY 2024 Baseline for Waste and Materials

Solid Waste – Reduce Volume of Landfill Waste (US Tons) 3,681
(Actual) – *Goal for 2024 3,441 tons*

Recycle Industrial Waste by 100%

FY2023 / 2024 Breakout of Industrial Materials

Tires	**1,802**
Car Batteries	**1,341**
Gallons of Waste Oil	**5,900**
Pounds of Waste Metal	**91,840**
Gallons of Coolant	**400**
Green Purchasing Baseline (FY2024)	**13,850 (Total Number – Preferred Products) ***

8 Potential Waste contracts amendments to capture data goals herein.
9 Baseline is reflected from previous formal measurement reported int eh closeout of the 2018 – 2024 Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations (SAPCO) and will support the direction of new priorities in the Pima County CAPCO.

Waste and Materials – Implementation and Work Plan Timeline

Waste and Materials Working Group / Implementing Departments: *Pima County Procurement, Pima County Facilities Management, Pima County Department of Environmental Quality, Pima County Green Stewards*

Waste and Materials Core Area 1 (WM.1) – Procurement of Sustainable / Recycled Materials for Offices

WM.1 Increase the percentage of Preferred Products purchased by the County by 5% or more, annually

Performance Measure

WM.1.1 Percent increase and number of office supplies purchased are listed on *Pima County's Preferred Product List (recycled materials for offices)*

Evaluation Metrics & Goal for Procurement of 'Preferred Products'[10] **-** Using previous performance data (the 2024 data reflected a -66% reduction from FY2024 goal), in Year 1, Pima County Procurement and County Departments will develop a strategy to increase number (5% annual) of recycled products within budget and availability limitations. Annually, the CAPCO seeks to return to (at least) the amount of recycled (preferred) products – 33,810 products or develop a cost amenable strategy to enhance the sustainability of the products we procure for offices and operations. This metric is specific to office supplies and materials – WM.2. is dedicated to sustainable materials across operations.

Implementation Strategies

WM.1.1a Standardize product selection and purchasing practices to ensure sustainable materials are available for departments, within budget parameters

10 *The FY2024 baseline data herein reflects an overall decrease from the previous plan baseline due, in part, to availability and cost of preferred products to be accessible to County departments.

WM.1.1a Product Selection Evaluation (Year 1, and subsequent)

Previous data underscores that the materials procured for offices and operations might be subject to budget and / or availability limitations. In the first year, look at past data on procured products and evaluate the changes over recent years and document barriers to previous goals. In Year 1 and 2 also evaluate opportunities to implement strategies to document and enhance suppliers / contractors that share environmental / net zero goals. In Year 2 report on these findings and propose augmented strategies for Years 3,4, and 5. In lieu of an overall % change, this chapter will reflect annual proposed data changes, to ensure the County is pivoting or augmenting strategies based on product cost and availability.

Waste and Materials Core Area 2 (WM.2) – Procurement of Sustainable Materials for Operations

WM.2 Procurement of Sustainable Materials for Operations – Explore and implement new and innovative approaches to sustainable materials across County operations

Performance Measure

WM.2.1 - Document and evaluate where there are innovative new sustainable materials to be used in County operations

Evaluation Metrics & Goal for Sustainable Materials for Operations (new) – while previous data centered around recycled / sustainable materials for offices, as underscored in the Evaluation section for WM.1, there is an opportunity to develop and deploy plans to augment / document the procurement and use of innovative supplies, materials, and partnerships for sustainable materials across the full array of County operations. The evaluation metric for the first year will be to start this documentation to inform on existing use of sustainable materials, and / or growth thereof to set subsequent year goals. Similarly, as highlighted above, this is also an opportunity to document existing partnerships with contractors and suppliers that share climate commitment goals where applicable. This metric will also venture to quantify efficiency and sustainability in materials for new County buildings (tying in with Carbon / Energy efficiency data as well).

Implementation Strategies

WM.2.1a Evaluate across departments where there are innovations / opportunities to incorporate sustainable materials into operations

WM.2.1a Develop goals (and existing inventory) for enhancing sustainable materials across County Operations

Annually, the Climate Action Teams and the Waste and Materials working group will explore and recommend one to two sustainable materials opportunities and cost / benefit associated with the procurement of such.

(example: soy-based tires in Fleet Services – cost neutral, sustainable material)

Waste and Materials Core Area 3 (WM.3) – Reduction in tonnage of solid waste to landfill

Performance Measure

WM.3 Reduction in tonnage of solid waste to landfill and monitoring of solid waste emissions data from County operations

Evaluation Metrics & Goal for Reduced Tonnage: The CAPCO has a 2024 baseline of 3,681 US metric tons of solid waste to the landfill in 2024, slightly missing the overall SAPCO target of 3,441 tons. In alignment with previous evaluative metrics in this section, the CAPCO seeks to evaluate an average annual 5% reduction to reflect an overall 25% reduction, if possible, but if tonnage increases between years that annual reduction becomes critical. The evaluative goal over the CAPCO period is to reduce annually between 175 US metric tons and 140 US metric tons, annually, with a CAPCO end goal to reduce tonnage to under 2,850 US metric tons by 2030[11] [12]. This will also be contingent on continued workforce engagement and education.

11 The County will report waste-generate emissions as applicable through the Regional Climate Plan efforts, as available.
12 This will be evaluated in conjunction with number of new / ongoing construction projects planned across the County Operations, and adjusted if needed – but will also reflect the materials evaluation measures in WM.2

Implementation Strategies

WM.3.1a Standardized procedures for proper waste management within Pima County Operations

WM.3.1a This will be accomplished through contract modifications, regular weight evaluation, and alignment with planned projects to reflect increases / decreases and strategies to further reduce in alignment with performance target (Year 1 – 5, ongoing)

WM.3.1b Increase the amount of equipment that is reused through surplus process, where appropriate

WM.3.1b Document and report out with Pima County Facilities and Procurement as guiding departments (Year 1 – 5, ongoing)

WM.3.1c Improve waste reduction education across departments (through Pima County Communications and Pima County Green Stewards)

WM.3.1c Continue to foster regular updates to employees through Pima County Communications channels, enhance the waste education programming that exists (at least annually) through Department of Environmental Quality and the Green Stewards for Pima County employees. Continue to foster and engage employees through educational opportunities and activities such as, but not limited to composting, recycling, waste reuse and reduction, and continuing to partner with Pima County Human Resources on providing Pima County Wellness Points for engagement of such (Sustainability Wellness Points started in 2025). (Year 1 – 5, ongoing)

Waste and Materials Core Area 4 (WM.4) – Enhanced Volume of Recycled Material from County Operations

WM.4 Increase the volume of material that is recycled by 5% annually, and recycle 100% of the industrial waste by Pima County Operations, where applicable[13]

Performance Measure

WM4.1 Volume / weight of materials recycled

WM.4.2 Quantity of each type of industrial waste recycled

13 As stated above, contract amendments should be considered to gather specific data on this Core Area for recylcing

Evaluation Metrics & Goal for Recycled Materials

The County improved (increased) the volume of recycled materials in the closeout of the SAPCO. As realized by these successes the CAPCO will document and ensure that the County is documenting that 100% of industrial waste is being recycled from County operations, and document those counts, annually. The added component to this section is evaluating the recycled material from County offices and operations, annually, and reduce by 5%, annually and accordingly. This will require contract modifications to accurately measure recycled materials, education and protocol exploration.

Implementation Strategies

WM.4.1a, WM.4.2a Monitor and report volume of recycled office materials handled by contracted provider (Year 1 – 5, annually – Year 1 create and evaluate baseline measurement, and subsequent year goals of materials by weight)

WM.4.1b Improve Waste Reduction and Recycling Protocols Across Departments

> **WM.4.1b** Create a consistent protocol across departments on what / type of recycling is handled across Pima County offices. Create education content to be accessible by all County departments by CAPCO Year 1.

WM.4.1c Educate Pima County Employees about proper recycling protocols, ensuring they are aligned with the County's Procurement Contracts and Vendors

> **WM.4.1c** Have at least annually, year 1 – 5 two Green Stewards sponsored educational opportunities on recycling at the County, and at home.

Waste and Materials Core Area 5 Reduction in Use of Materials

WM.5 Reduction in Use of Materials (WM.5) – Explore and Implement Procedures that Reduce Waste

Performance Measures

WM.5.1 Create internal policies that reduce the amount of waste that is generated by Pima County Operations

Evaluation Metrics & Goal for Policies to Reduce Waste

Create a baseline to inform policies and procedures such as, but not limited to, printing costs / volume across departments, digital outputs for printed materials, surplus supplies and management. This is a new metric, in Year 1 take baseline measurements and create protocols that have reduction measurements annualized for regular reporting.

Implementation Strategies

WM.5.1a Design and Develop Strategies / Protocols to improve waste reduction and materials use

WM.5.1a In year 1-2 explore protocol recommendations for printing, digital outputs and surplus and make a recommendation to Pima County Administrator

WM.5.1b Enhance Digital Outputs for Comprehensive Plans

WM.5.1b The CAPCO, Pima Prospers and the Integrated Infrastructure Plan are examples in Year 1 of implementation of comprehensive plans that are accessible online publicly and in digital formats.

WM.5.1c Reduction in the use of single use plastics and other disposable items

WM.5.1c In conjunction with WM Core Area 1, work with Procurement to explore opportunities to reduce the volume of single use plastics.

WM.5.1d Create policies that better reuse office equipment and supplies

WM.5.1d In Year 1, explore protocol opportunities to make a recommendation to the County Administrator, or create educational content for Green Stewards on supplies, equipment and surplus reuse.

Core Area 6 (WM.6) Workforce Education

WM.6 Workforce Education – Expand education and outreach across the County

Evaluation Metrics & Goal for Workforce Education

Currently, the Pima County Green Stewards hold monthly educational events that are open to all County staff and have partnered with Pima County Human Resources to offer Pima County Wellness Points for participation in the monthly educational seminars, or other content-specific engagement opportunities throughout the year. Over the 5-year CAPCO period, continue to strive to engage an increased amount of participation each month through notifications in County-wide communications, partner and volunteer opportunities relevant to Sustainability and Climate work at the County and across the community.

Performance Measure

WM.6.1 Workforce Participation in Green Stewards Educational Events

WM.6.2 Create clear communication materials for this priority area Recycling for Office Use

Implementation Strategies

WM.6.1a & WM6.2a Continue to grow Pima County Green Stewards Content around all areas of the Climate Plan (and Waste and Materials) in partnership with County Departments, and community partners

WM.6.1a and WM.6.2a Annually, report participation rates in Green Stewards events. Annual participation increases goal of 5% year over year.

Chapter 3. Extreme Heat (new element) Climate Strategy: Adaptation

Chapter 3 Extreme Heat Preparedness Goals: In alignment with the Pima County Health Department's 3-Year Heat Plan, the County Operations commitment to support extreme heat response and preparedness is centered on addressing the impacts and threat of extreme heat, collaborative planning and reduce the impact of extreme heat through: bolstering the cooling center network, data driven community interventions, and community resilience / outreach and engagement.

Extreme Heat Preparedness Core Areas (for CAPCO – in alignment with the regionally focused Pima County Health Department - PCHD 3-year Heat Plan): Support the growth and capacity building of the Cooling Center Network and heat relief initiatives; evaluate and bolster heat workforce protections initiated in 2024, develop cross-cutting strategies to bolster green infrastructure projects in heat risk areas.

CAPCO Baseline (not included in SAPCO)

Extreme Heat Initiatives were developed between 2023 and 2024 as a response to record-breaking heat, under direction from Governor Katie Hobbs, and due to pressing public health demands due to extreme heat across Arizona. These initiatives deployed during the CAPCO planning period, and Extreme Heat is now included in Board of Supervisors resolution 2025-11 to grow the SAPCO to include climate adaptation priorities such as heat.

2024 Cooling Center Network – 41 Cooling Centers, ~15,000 Individuals Served[14]

2025 Cooling Center Network – 36 Cooling Centers, over 35,000 served[15]

14 2024 Extreme Heat Evaluation
15 2025 Heat Season Plan: Note 2025 Final Heat Report is in DRAFT at completion of this Implementation Guide

CAPCO Implementation Plan and Timeline[16]

Lead Implementing Departments – Pima County Health Department, Pima County Libraries, Pima County Communications, Pima County Administrator's Office, Pima County Facilities – regional oversight through the **Joint Heat Action Team**

Extreme Heat Core Area 1 (H.1) – Support and Expand Heat Relief Efforts

H1 Costs – Staffing and Supplies $ (3 dedicated FTEs), in subsequent plan after completion of PCHD 3-Year Heat Plan, conduct new costs estimates for subsequent plan details – currently grant funded

H.1 Expand the Cooling Center Network Capacity and use data from recent two-years of Extreme Heat response across the region to inform cooling center priority areas.

Performance Measure

H.1.1 Number of Participating Cooling Centers

H.1.2 Continued Evaluation of Heat Relief Efforts and Impact throughout Heat Season

Evaluation Metric & Goal for Supporting and Expanding Heat Relief Efforts – support the exploration and growth of the Cooling Center Network. Currently this is a new item for CAPCO, and in alignment with the 2024 and 2025 post-heat season evaluative reports produced by PCHD, the CAPCO will seek to document and explore data opportunities to further grow the Cooling Center Network, but also underscore high-priority areas, such as areas with high vulnerability – grid reliability, mobile homes, housing vulnerable, medically vulnerable, and gaps in transportation as examples. Use GIS mapping and historic utilization data to ensure that cooling resources are easily accessible and continue to be accessible to high-priority areas.

16 This section Implementation Plan is specific to CAPCO directives underscored in the existing PCHD 3-year heat plan – the CAPCO will support the goals in the existing heat plan, and support development of subsequent planning for future heat plans upon completion of current Heat Plan.

Implementation Strategies

H.1.1a Expand and Refine Access to Cooling Center Network and Enhance the Number of Participating Cooling Centers

Pima County Health Department – in conjunction with local jurisdictions, tribal partners, shelter partners, non-profits, faith-based organizations and academic institutions – continue to collaborate, facilitate and integrate data-driven opportunities to further refine locations for cooling centers, needs of vulnerable populations that can be aided by cooling centers / cooling resources, and align with cooling center evolving priorities and heat network resourcing

H.1.1a Cooling Center Network Support and Number of Participating Cooling Centers (Year 1 – 3)

In Year 1 of CAPCO – review and analyze key findings from Year 1 and Year 2 of PCHD 3-year Heat Plan to inform the final year of the current heat plan and subsequent heat plan for ongoing years. In Year 1 of CAPCO further refine data inputs – such as currently non-integrated data sets (e.g., historic power outage data or opportunities to create cooling center opportunities in locations that are on or are supported by demonstrated renewable energy sources. In Year 4 and 5 of this plan – align / adjust based on the subsequent Extreme Heat Plan that will be developed and deployed at the conclusion of the current 3-year Heat Plan.

H.1.2a Continued Evaluation of Heat Relief Efforts and Associated Impact throughout Heat Season

H.1.2.a In summer 2026 (Year 3 of the PCHD 3-year Heat Plan, Year 1 of CAPCO) **Explore opening 1-2 dedicated 24-hour cooling centers, or other similar emergency-response cooling location** that would utilize Heat Plan Year 1 and 2 evaluative data from epidemiological monitoring, vulnerable population data, and heat risk to deploy a proposal for such a location.

Extreme Heat Core Area 2 (H.2) – Heat Workforce Protection Efforts

Performance Measure

H.2.1 Evaluate the Pima County Policies around Heat Safety, and Ensure all County Departments are Heat Safety Trained and Implement Heat Safety Plan

H.2.2 Evaluate the Pima County Heat Workforce Safety Ordinance

Evaluative Metrics & Goal (new – create baseline)

Number of Pima County Departments Trained, Number of Pima County Departments with Heat Safety Plans

Determine (in partnership with PCHD and Arizona Department of Occupational Safety and Health – ADOSH, and Joint Heat Action Team) critical data capacity building for heat injuries occurring in high-heat work environments, number of complaints, integrate historic epidemiological data on heat injury or illness that occur in high-heat work environments.

Implementation Strategies

H.2 Heat Workforce Protection Efforts demonstrated through number of Heat Safety Trainings given to Pima County Departments and Number of Heat Safety Plans completed by Departments, and evaluation / baseline measures for the Pima County Heat Safety Ordinance for Contractors.

H.2.1 Ensure All County Departments have a Heat Safety Plan – Administrative Procedure 35-3

H.2.1a Conduct heat safety training annually to County Departments; and

H.2.1b Ensure Departments have an updated heat safety plan. (Annually – all years of CAPCO)

H.2.2 Evaluate the Pima County Heat Workforce Safety Ordinance

H.2.2a Work with Pima County Procurement, Pima County Health Department, and the County Administrator's Office to develop an evaluation plan for the Heat Safety Ordinance for County Contractors (Year 1 – develop evaluation plan, determine baseline number of new and amended contracts that have the Heat Safety clause, work with Arizona Department of Occupational Health and Safety Administration, Labor Unions and Business community to gather critical data to inform Year 2 – 5 evaluation of the ordinance and impact for workers in hot environments).

H.2.2b Monitor Progress from Arizona state-wide directives on Heat Safety policy exploration and status of proposed Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) heat safety policy (in review as of Year 1 of CAPCO)

Extreme Heat Core Area 3 (H.3) - Green Infrastructure Investments in Heat Priority Areas (connect to investments and projects in CAPCO Water and Landscapes Chapters)

H.3 Increase number of green infrastructure projects in heat priority areas and increase number of trees planted in heat priority areas

<u>Performance Measures</u>

H.3.1 Number of Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Investments prioritized of total GSI projects / acreage that are in an area prioritized by heat-relief data or in a demonstrated heat vulnerable area

H.3.2 Increased tree canopy in higher heat vulnerable areas (connect to tree planting metric in Landscapes Chapter of CAPCO)

Evaluative Metrics and Goals

Partner across the Climate Teams to use public health and heat vulnerability data collected from PCHD and the Joint Heat Action Team partnership to inform the investments made by the County/Flood Control District in green infrastructure projects to demonstrate multi-benefit and impact targeted investments. In year, inform through GIS mapping, identify opportunity areas to prioritize investments in green infrastructure projects that are underway across County departments and / or the community

Implementation Strategies

H.3.1a Green Infrastructure Projects in Heat Stressed Areas

H.3.1a Connect data across Extreme Heat, Water and Landscapes chapters to ensure the goals across all three are bridged to include public health data and / or heat vulnerability to prioritize projects that bolster heat resilience in heat-stressed areas. Year 1 of CAPCO (Year 3 of Heat Plan) create connective data strategy to inform project investments across years 2 – 5.

H.3.2a Increased Tree Canopy in Heat Stressed Areas

H.3.2a Connect the tree planting goals in Landscapes chapter to the data underscored in H.3.1a, and partner with the County departments to use native plants and trees to inform the tree canopy goals in heat-stressed areas over years 2 – 5.

Chapter 4. Wildfire and Invasive Species (new element) Climate Strategy: Adaptation

Wildfire and Invasive Species Goals – support and augment the Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) activities pertaining to Mitigation – specifically the County operations components of Invasive Species / Grasses remediation and data collection efforts and enhancements. Partner across local and state jurisdictions (such as Az Department of Forestry and Fire Management), robust volunteer networks, to ensure high-risk, site-based efforts align with the WMP and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

Wildfire and Invasive Species Core Areas (for CAPCO, in alignment with the implemented Wildfire Mitigation Plan) Mitigation of Invasive Species, Data and Mapping, Communication and Outreach

Baseline Data

- Over 25 partner agencies across the community, including 11 Pima County Departments contributing to Invasive Plant Control
- Existing GIS data from participating County Departments
- Substantial volunteer network across the region working collectively on Invasive Species remediation, education and outreach – Invasives Volunteer Hours – over 300 hours, on average, quarterly
- Average annual remediation projects conducted by County departments and partnerships to be drafted in Year 1 of the WMP and implemented into CAPCO in Year 1

CAPCO Implementation Plan and Timeline

Lead Implementing Departments: Pima County Administrator's Office, Pima County Office of Emergency Management, Pima County Regional Flood Control District, Pima County Conservation Lands & Resources

Wildfire and Invasive Species Core Area 1 (F.1) - Mitigation of Invasive Species

F.1 Number of sites treated for Invasive / exotic plans (by department, volunteer hours, and partner agencies)

Performance Measures

F.1.1 Document and increase the acreage of land treated for invasive plants through targeted investment in high-priority areas.

Evaluative Metrics and Goals

In alignment with the Wildfire Mitigation Plan, increase the number of sites treated across Pima County departments and through area-partnerships. Sites will be prioritized by Pima County land areas that are identified as high-risk in the Wildfire Risk map produced through the Wildfire Mitigation Plan and inform the Community Wildfire Protection Plan which is in development as of the start of CAPCO. Through the Administrative Procedure to be developed as a component of F.1.1, the CAPCO will frame a new baseline for remediation goals over years 2 – 5.

Implementation Strategies

F.1.1a Develop and internal Administrative Procedure (AP) and Protocols

F.1.1a Ensure the AP is reflective of the interdepartmental engagement for Invasives Remediation to include County / Flood Control District properties, roadways, open space, washes, and other wildfire risk areas. (Year 1, and evaluated annually)

Wildfire and Invasive Species Core Area 2 (F.2) - Enhancement of Data and Mapping for Invasive Species

F.2 Departmental participation in Pima County Data / GIS Tracking Tools

Performance Measures

F.2 Use current GIS capacity as a baseline, and expand data inputs, prioritization / risk tools, and active engagement in data / mapping tools

Evaluative Metrics and Goals

Through the Administrative Procedure to be developed as a component of F.1.1, the CAPCO will frame a new baseline for remediation goals over years 2 – 5 based on data gleaned by department-specific remediation efforts. Year 1 of the WMP will help frame the baseline data and the AP herein will demonstrate a more robust data set for the Pima County Wildland Urban Interface and respective department, volunteer and contract / partner activities

Implementation Strategies

F.2.1 Expand current GIS Capacity, and use the Year 1 baseline data from the WMP to expand strategies for data inputs (specifically, prioritization and risk tools, active engagement locations, volunteer support)

F.2.1a The Pima County AP proposed in F.1.1 will detail data inputs and protocols for County departments

F.2.1b Couple the activities and data inputs from the AP and the WMP Wildfire Risk Area Mapping to ensure high-risk areas are prioritized for remediation (Years 2 – 5)

F.2.1.c Include this expanded data / GIS capacity to inform the CWPP effort (planned completion of CWPP in Year 2 of CAPCO) and contribute County mapping data to broader community and partnership network data growth and capacity.

Wildfire and Invasive Species Core Area 3 (F.3) - Communication and Outreach Strategies

F.3 Communication and Outreach on WMP Strategies – Implement the WMP Communications Plan

Performance Measure

F.3.1 Number of Communication Engagements

F.3.2 Number of staff engaged in County-sponsored Invasive Species Removal Opportunities

F.3.3 Number of employees attending training / Green Stewards forums

Implementation Strategies

F.3.1a Enhanced Communication Planning and Outreach for Public Awareness

F.3.1a In Year 1 of the WMP and CAPCO create a baseline of Communication Engagements, by type and subject-area to inform and enhance strategies for subsequent years of WMP and year 2 – 5 of CAPCO (for CAPCO, track communication engagements by Mitigation)

F.3.2 Engage County staff in Invasive Removal Activities

F.3.2a In Year 1 of WMP and CAPCO the Climate Teams developed (in conjunction with Human Resources) wellness points for Sustainability Activities; In conjunction with departments and Green Stewards provide regular opportunities to engage staff in invasives removal (such as buffelgrass pulls alongside County departments), report on staff engagement opportunities, annually – demonstrate baseline data on types of engagement and % increase goals.

F.3.3a and F.3.3.b Provide Continued Education and Volunteer Opportunities with County Departments and / partner agencies for remediation education or removal efforts

F.3.3b Counts of Pima County volunteers that have engaged in a Green Stewards Wildfire Mitigation educational event, gotten Wellness Points, or attended an invasives volunteer event – annually. Annual participation increase goal of 5% year over year.

Chapter 5. Water

Climate Strategy: Adaptation & Resilience

CAPCO Water Goals –To make an impact on climate mitigation and adaptation by investing in policies, programs and infrastructure that result in resilience of water for riparian ecosystems, a sustainable potable water supply through a diversified water supply portfolio, a long-term countywide water conservation ethic, reducing consumptive water use for ongoing sustainability, and supported community green spaces.

CAPCO Water Core Areas: Augmenting groundwater and irrigation-water supply with stormwater; promoting the sustainable use of effluent; managing the demand for water both in County Operations and for community welfare and involving planning and partnerships between the County and other organizations working on water sustainability.

Water Baseline Data (SAPCO Elements)

Lead Implementor – Pima County Facilities Management

Water Use Across County Facilities (W.3 in CAPCO) 2024 Operations Gallons of Water Used **735.6 Gallons**

% Change from 2021 (–15.7%) Reduction

Pima County Facilities Management will compile baseline metrics and inventories for W.3 to be created within the first year of CAPCO and reported accordingly.

CAPCO Implementation Plan and Timeline – Water

Lead Implementor - Water Working Group - *Pima County Regional Flood Control District, Pima County Regional Wastewater & Reclamation, Pima County Facilities Management, Pima County Conservation Lands & Resources, Pima County Parks & Recreation, Pima County Department of Environmental Quality*

Water Core Area 1 (W.1) Augmenting Water Supply with Enhanced Use of (and Recharge of) Stormwater

W.1 Address vulnerable areas including where there is subsidence and dropped groundwater tables, heat islands, low park score neighborhoods, disadvantaged demographics, flooding impacts, and diminishing creeks in the long term, reach stormwater capture levels equivalent to the amount of new runoff created by streetscapes.

Performance Measure

W.1.1 Increase acreage of Stormwater projects and Green Infrastructure Sites designed to promote recharge

W.1.2 Utilize wells dashboard to provide water resilience and strategies and utilize RFCD Delta tool to identify suitable locations for stormwater capture and groundwater recharge

W.1.3 Net Zero calculations to track resilience in areas that don't receive imported CAP water

Evaluative Measures and Goals

Create a CAPCO baseline for current and planned water augmentation projects, goals and budgets for subsequent CAPCO years using current and in development data tools, mapping, and shared / complimentary data.

Implementation Strategies

W.1.1a Modify Detention Basins to promote recharge through retrofits or new sites

> **W.1.1a** In CAPCO Year 1 – 3 evaluate effectiveness of Rita Ranch Detention Basin project, and implement any necessary modifications, also in Year 1 develop a plan to prioritize and ensure budget capacity for subsequent projects, annually, using data-driven determinations for opportunity areas.

W.1.1b Build Storm Water Parks where there is greatest need to increase access to cool green space

W.1.1b Use current District information and tools to prioritize areas and incorporate public health input on Extreme Heat response efforts and in Year 1 develop a comprehensive strategy to **enhance Green Infrastructure Projects – adding over 40 acres and at least 3 projects over the CAPCO period** with opportunity for enhanced growth and investment as available.

W.1.1c Monitor Natural Recharge at Preservation Sites and constructed recharge in Basins / Stormwater Parks to inform and adopt initiatives

W.1.1c Report annually on progress at improving Preservation and Recharge Sites and make annual recommendations on annual investments / projects.

W.1.2 Using current data tools – such as the Wells Dashboard and RFCD's Delta Tool – Evaluate locations that maximize the volume of stormwater that can be recharged considering geology, watershed conditions, ecosystem needs, and water quality

W.1.2a Complete development of the Wells Dashboard in Year 1 build the data capacity between the two data tools to prioritize projects during year 2 through 5. These tools will support analyses to confirm high areas for stormwater recharge – in alignment with Floodplain Management Plan yearly goals, and associated data for prioritization on new recharge projects, costs, and planning / implementation thereof.

W.1.3b Continue to Partner with other jurisdictions and water service providers

W.1.3.b Report annually, on partner projects and associate impact in Water Working Group updates – such as, but not limited to – jurisdictional partners, non-profits, academia, among others.

Water Core Area 2 (W.2) - Promoting the Sustainable Use of Effluent

W.2 Promoting the Sustainable Use of Effluent to enhance the multi-benefit use of reclaimed water on County and Community Sites, and supports the balance of regional aquatic / meso / riparian habitat lost to drought and increased water demands.

Performance Measures

W.2.1 Increase Quantity of County's allocation of reclaimed water that goes out to beneficial use with emphasis on high-demand users

W.2.2 Identify interdepartmental regional, and community opportunities

Implementation Strategies

W.2.1a Update a full inventory of County landscapes that use supplemental water and by what type (specifically, effluent, municipal water / or ground water) and inform year 2- 5 strategies to move landscapes from ground water / municipal to effluent). In years 2-5 make project recommendations in alignment with Integrated Infrastructure Plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan to ensure County owned effluent is optimized for public benefit and to replace groundwater including sale of effluent to others to offset groundwater pumping.

W.2.1b New Ecosystem Restoration Opportunities

Reclaimed water opportunities for natural habitats – such as the Conservation Effluent Pool (CEP) allocations. Seek further allocation to restore Riparian areas and report on the impact thereof within first year of CAPCO, and at that point make further recommendations on baseline and data goal. Report annually on the impact of CEP or other reclaimed water opportunities for natural habitat.

Water Core Area 3 (W.3) - Managing the Demand for Water both in County Operations and Community

W.3 Reducing the demand across County Operations by 15%, annually and across the community identify and grow methods to reduce water demand.

Performance Measure

W.3.1 Gallons of Water Used

Implementation Strategies

Lead Implementor for Implementation Strategies for 3.1a -3.1d - *Pima County Facilities Management*

W.3.1a Continue to inventory and replace fixtures with water efficient / low flow fixtures across County facilities

W.3.1a In Year 1 of CAPCO complete a full inventory of water efficient fixtures across County facilities and make a year 2 – 5 strategic investment strategy to deploy efficient fixtures across County facilities. Year 1 inventory will represent the baseline for CAPCO period.

W.3.1b Continue to Optimize Cooling Towers and report annually

W.3.1c Sub-meter water systems during retrofits and report annually

W.3.1d Invest in rainwater collection tanks and passive stormwater harvesting to provide irrigation

W.3.1d As aligned with Core Area 1, using Core Area 1 data on stormwater recharge inform in Year 1 – 2 strategic investments for rainwater collection tanks at County sites, for Year 2 – 5 planning

W.3.1e Integrate Economic Development related water consumption in Environmental Reviews

W.3.1e As aligned with BOS Policy 31.4 Enhanced Due Diligence Process for Pima County Economic Development Projects underscoring environmental reviews in economic initiatives, and other applicable water policies, document through each Environmental Review process how many high-water use projects are proposed across the CAPCO period and inform on strategies to conserve and reduce water use.

W.3.1f Implement Pima Prospers policy to conduct Water Supply Impact Reviews of proposed comprehensive plan amendments and rezonings larger than 4 acres

W.3.1f Report annually and inform Pima Prospers annual updates.

Water Core Area 4 (W.4) - Promoting Water Sustainability and Innovation; and Connection Between Water and Landscapes

W.4 Water supply augmentation through partnerships, green infrastructure and connection to landscapes; create more resilience through a diversified water portfolio by maximizing recharge, effluent, and use of stormwater and mitigate habitat loss due to drought and shallow groundwater recharge.

<u>Performance Measures</u>

W.4.1 Increase Acreage of Green Infrastructure investments with multi-use components

W.4.2 Connect water innovation and infrastructure investments to Landscapes 10,000 tree 5-year goal

W.4.3 Capture Carbon Sequestration Data (CO2e) as a measure in CAPCO emissions data and regional Priority Climate Action Plan for emissions

W.4.4 Maximize percentage of Loop River Parks that utilize green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) to restore flood bank habitat and make tree shade more climate resilient

4.5 Use PDEQ's annual survey that assesses GSI awareness to measure outreach impact

Evaluative Measures and Goals

Incorporate core data such as Regional Flood Control District's GSI 10-year plan and PDEQsMunicipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Retrofit analysis to target most impactful opportunities over the CAPCO period. Integrate public health data from Extreme Heat work to target investments in area prone to high-heat effects, and enhance augmentation of water supply / effluent use to further landscapes priorities. Annually, this section will be informed by input from the Water Working Group, but also priorities and data from the CAPCO plan.

Implementation Strategies

W.4.1a Utilize evaluations of locations to prioritize suitable GSI sites and expand approach to maximize multi-benefits

W.4.1.a Apply analysis to support a prioritization methodology; report on the methodology in CAPCO Year 1 – 3. In CAPCO Years 2 – 3 identify initial priority areas

W.4.2a, W.4.3a, W.4.4a, W.4.5a Number of sites maintained for multi-benefit function using collaborative partnerships

W.4.2 – 5a Evaluate maintenance needs of existing sites in CAPCO Year 1. Develop maintenance plans for Year 2 and subsequent years to ensure functionality for multi-benefit.

W.4.4a Stormwater harvesting to support mature trees

W.4.4a Evaluate opportunities to address stormwater resources for mature trees on County-owned properties in year 1; **implement pilot efforts in years 2-3 with associated Landscapes impact.**

W.4.6a Outreach about drought responses the community can take

4.6a – Continue engagement with nonprofits and water providers; increase County's educational outreach on drought preparedness, years 1-5. At least 2 Green Stewards educational opportunities on Water, annually, and reports on participation.

Chapter 6. Landscapes — Climate Strategy: Adaptation & Resilience

CAPCO Landscapes Goals: Utilize and build upon the County's on-going protection and restoration of extensive healthy landscapes as a strategy for climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience. The goals herein not only protect and safeguard natural areas, riparian areas and cultural resources, they expand investment in green infrastructure, food systems and native plant protection.

Landscapes Core Areas: CAPCO Landscapes incorporate the following areas: Natural Areas (includes geographic areas that are undeveloped and the ecosystems within them in Pima County), Conservation Lands / Cultural Resources, Urban Areas (areas by which Pima County has the authority to regulate land use, open space / green infrastructure and food systems. This implementation plan links the CAPCO Landscapes work to other chapters throughout the plan.

Baseline Landscapes Data

Natural Areas

Miles of perennial and intermittent streamflow on RFCD and County fee lands	2024 Baseline – 28.8 miles
	Groundwater depths
Santa Cruz River	2024 Baseline 69ft
Cienega Creek (Midpoint of the Cienega Creek Natural Preserve	2024 Baseline 13.7ft
Canada Del Oro (Near Golder Ranch Drive)	2024 Baseline 70.8ft
Tanque Verde Creek (at Houghton Road)	2024 Baseline 36.6ft
Lower Santa Cruz River (downstream of Sunset Road Bridge)	2024 Baseline 110.5ft
San Pedro River (at Bingham Cienega Natural Preserve)	2024 Baseline 30.4ft
Acres of additional natural habitat conserved	SAPCO 5 years overall – 7,074 acres
County Acres protected within AGFD linkages (driven by acquisitions)	SAPCO 5 years overall – 28,681 acres
Acres of important Riparian Areas (IRA) on RFCD and County Fee Lands	2024 Baseline 18,742 acres
Number of Acres treated for invasive / exotic plans	SAPCO total 16,924 acres
Number of completed restoration actions	SAPCO total 498 projects
Plant at least 10,000 more trees	SAPCO total 7,744 trees
Install at least 40 more acres of green infrastructure	SAPCO total 40 acres

Food Systems metrics removed – lack of available data and / or baseline measurements – reframed for CAPCO

CAPCO Implementation Plan and Timeline – Landscapes

Lead Implementing Departments: Pima County Conservation Lands & Resources, Pima County Parks and Recreation; Pima County Regional Flood Control District

Landscapes Core Area 1 (L.1): Natural Areas

L.1 Conserve native wildlife, plans and natural areas

Evaluative Strategies and Goals

Continue to improve upon the increased acreage for areas conserved, wildlife linkages protected, removal and remediation of invasive plants, and acquisition of conservation / riparian corridor parcels. Use historical data to inform average annual trends for each natural area goal.

Performance Measures

L.1.1 Acres of natural habitat conserved – County acres protected within AZ Game & Fish Department (AGFD) Wildlife Linkages

L.1.2 Miles of major riparian corridor added

L.1.3 Wildfire prevention across conservation lands – invasive species and treatment to reduce risk and protect ecosystems

L.1.4 Number of restoration projects

Implementation Strategies

L.1.1a Monitor trends of groundwater ecosystems (annually, and use that data to inform strategies in W.1 – W.4) – Year 1 – 5

L.1.1b Increase the total acres of natural areas conserved (CAPCO goal of increasing natural areas conserved by an average of at least 200 acres, annually)

L.1.1c Increase total acres protected within AGFD Wildlife linkages (through acquisitions of parcels / land) – report annually. Baseline is 28,681.

> **L.1.1c** Annually, evaluate the Wildlife Linkages in the Conservation Land Systems (CLS) – the County will continue to monitor acquisition opportunities in the Critical Landscapes Connections. Critical Landscape Connections are identified by number on the Conservation Lands System map. These are broadly defined areas (shown as purple arrows on the CLS map) that provide connectivity for movement of native biological resources, but which also contain potential or existing barriers that tend to isolate major conservation areas. The CAPCO and Implementing Teams will be using this map to determine acquisitions and developer mitigation efforts / requirements. This will be reported annually.

L.1.2a Acquire riparian corridor parcels in conjunction with the Conservation Lands System Map and as available / appropriate, report annually.

L.1.2b Increase linear miles of major riparian corridors added annually in conjunction with the Conservation Lands System Map and as available / appropriate, report annually.

L.1.3a Per Wildfire and Invasive Species Core Area 1 (F.1) remediate invasive species / plants through a cross-departmental Administrative Procedure, data tracking, community / agency partnership and volunteer efforts

L.1.4a Annual Inventory of restoration projects and expansion of restored landscapes (baseline 498 projects).

> L.1.4a Over CAPCO period, conduct between 100 and 200 annual restoration projects (such as restoration of erosion, fencing, supplemental water for wildlife – among others)

Landscapes Core Area 2 (L.2) - Urban Landscapes

L.2 Plant At Least 10,000 Trees

Evaluative Strategies and Goals

Within the first year of CAPCO develop a cross-departmental strategy (including input from area partners and stakeholders) to create a plan for 10,000 trees over the 5-year period. This will include priority areas, maintenance, native trees and a multi-year prioritization strategy.

Performance Measure

L.2.1 Number of Trees Planted

L.2.2 Support Green Infrastructure Goals Across CAPCO Chapters

Implementation Strategies

L.2.1a Develop multi-year strategies to integrate tree planting into appropriate departmental activities

L.2.1a Add tree counts within components of annual Green Infrastructure Project planning

L.2.1b Develop a 10,000 tree plan strategy (by year) in the first year of CAPCO across County Departments and submit a plan for Year 2 – 5

L2.2 Support and operationalize Green Infrastructure Investments that become identified in Water (Core Goal W.4) and Heat (Core Goal H.3) Chapters and Components of the CAPCO

L.2.2b At least 50% of plans for GI sites that are installed are obtained from the Pima County Native Plant Nursery – annual inventory and report

Landscapes Core Area 3 (L.3) - Food Systems

L.3 Food Systems: Maintain healthy grasslands and working ranches, invest in Food Systems Development and Access, Farmland Preservation, and Identify community-wide partnerships to revisit Food Systems Goals and Engagement Strategies

Evaluative Strategies and Goals

In the first year of CAPCO, the Climate Teams will explore the multi-year strategies for Food Systems opportunities. The County will continue to grow the acreage and management of Rangeland, working ranches.

Implementation Strategies

L.3.1a Continuing range-land inventories, monitoring and assessment (report annually)

L.3.1b Continue applying management practices to provide for ecosystem health

L.3.1c Track and report County acres under cattle grazing leases

L.3.2a Continued growth and preservation of farmland sites – such as Buckelew Farms

L.3.2b Identify opportunities for County farmland connectivity to county-wide food systems opportunities

L.3.2c Promote and expand urban and natural area farming

L.3.3a Collaborate with Public Health and Community Partners on food systems access – such as heritage food systems, food access, nutrition programs, and food deserts

L.3.3b Collaborate with Attractions and Tourism to promote and engage food heritage sites and UNESCO City of Gastronomy designation

For Implementation Strategies L3.1a through L.3.3.b – in Year 1 create a plan with baseline measurements, and 5-year goals for the County's role in Food Systems through our managed lands, ranches, farmlands, compounded with connectivity of food production, food systems and heritage crops. At completion of Year 1, the CAPCO Implementing Team will produce a Year 2 – 5 report on updated implementation strategies / associated goals and metrics for inclusion into the CAPCO.

Chapter 7. Climate and Community — Climate Strategy: Resilience

Evaluation and Commitment Statement

Climate Action is dependent on the ability to collect, evaluate, and present data timely and produce resources and content for the County's workforce and the broader community. The CAPCO will be coupled with a public-facing Climate Hub website that will demonstrate dynamic data on the County's climate work, provide an ability for a centralized location for the public to get critical resources, information and County community support, and engage with the work of the County. This is demonstrative of the integration of community priorities, public health, economic vitality, conservation and environmental stewardship. The County will continue to engage the public on at-least a bi-annual basis to provide feedback on the CAPCO implementation over the 5-year period, and that feedback and engagement will be a cornerstone to the evolution of the 2025 – 2030 CAPCO.

Sustainability and Climate Funding — Strategy: Planning and implementation

The CAPCO Implementation Plan is intended to be a malleable product that gets updated annually, based on project status, essential data and strategies that are to be developed in Year 1 of the CAPCO, direction from the Pima County Board of Supervisors and Pima County Leadership, and budget constraints / grant opportunities, or other ad hoc programmatic impacts. Most of the implementation strategies herein are accounted for in Integrated Infrastructure Plan Budgets, CIP Project Plan, grant funds, and general fund obligations.[17]

It is difficult to determine true projected and annual cost with the volume of Year 1 determinations but based on existing plans and estimates leadership can consider the following budget parameters . This is a planning document, and size, scale, and location of some projects are not yet known. As such, project cost estimating is not reliable and the use of the cost estimates to compare CAPCO elements is more appropriate at this stage. As projects develop that support CAPCO goals, detailed cost information will be provided

17 Costs are ESTIMATES and reflected from budgets in existing County budgets and plans, grant awards, or previously reported estimates.

It is essential to underscore that as projects materialize based on the goals, these budgets will change, thus rendering this analysis as a high-level estimate. Similarly, investments in the priorities herein will also have a cost benefit and the Climate Action Teams will be reviewing any return on investment that is realized by the project.

Cost Estimator Key (over the 5-year period):

$ - Less than $1M; $$ - Greater than $1M to $3M; $$$ - Greater than $3M to $5M; $$$$ Greater than $5M.

Climate Chapter	Cost Estimate	Annual Cost Estimate	5-Year Cost Estimate
Chapter 1 Carbon & Energy		$3,000,000.00	$15,000,000.00
Chapter 2 Materials & Waste		no planned cost impact	no planned cost impact
Chapter 3 Extreme Heat		$500,000.00	$2,500,000.00
Chapter 4 Wildfire & Invasive Species		$500,000.00	$2,500,000.00
Chapter 5 Water		$1,500,000.00	$7,500,000.00
Chapter 6 Landscapes		$3,000,000.00	$15,000,000.00
Chapter 7 Climate & Community		$25,000.00	$125,000.00
TOTAL		**$8,525,000.00**	**$42,625,000.00**