

The Global Warming Solutions Act and the Vermont Climate Action Plan



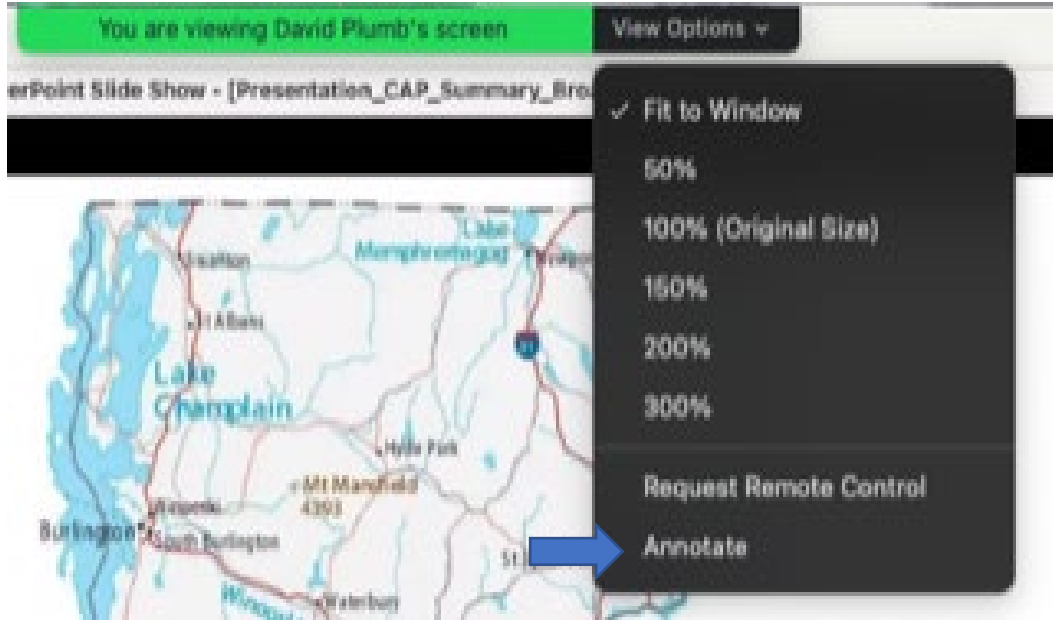
Liz Miller, Councilor and Member of Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee

April 13, 2022

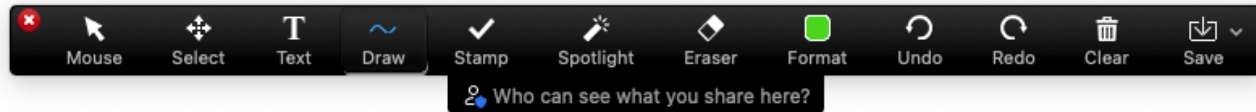
Where's home?

Here's how to click on this slide

Start by clicking on View Options, and select "Annotate"



Then click on "Stamp" and choose the ♥



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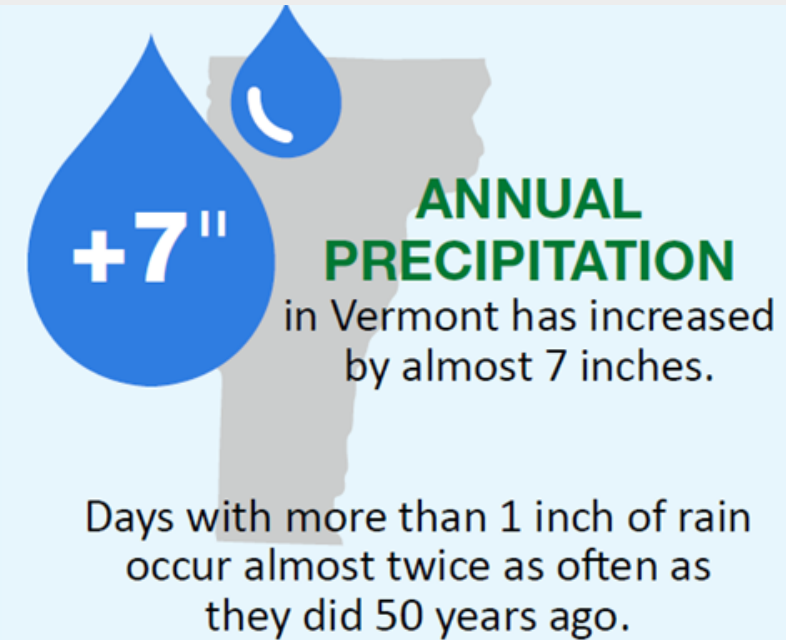
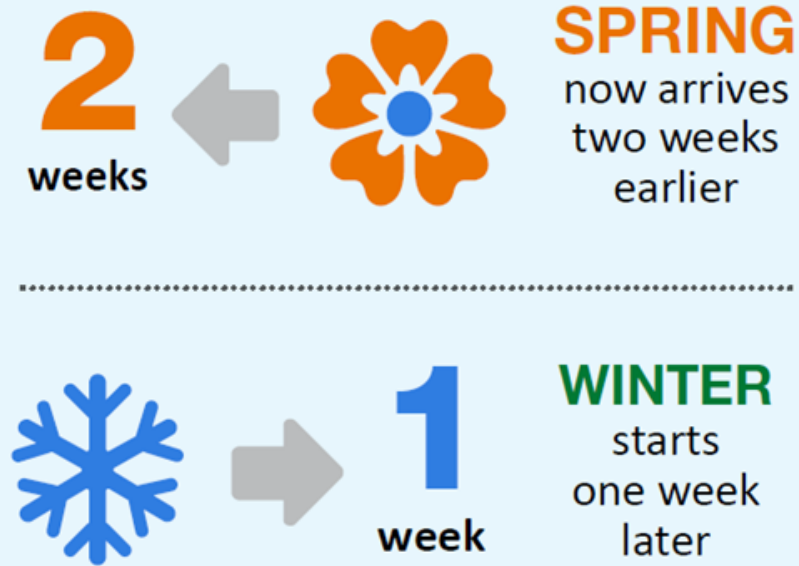
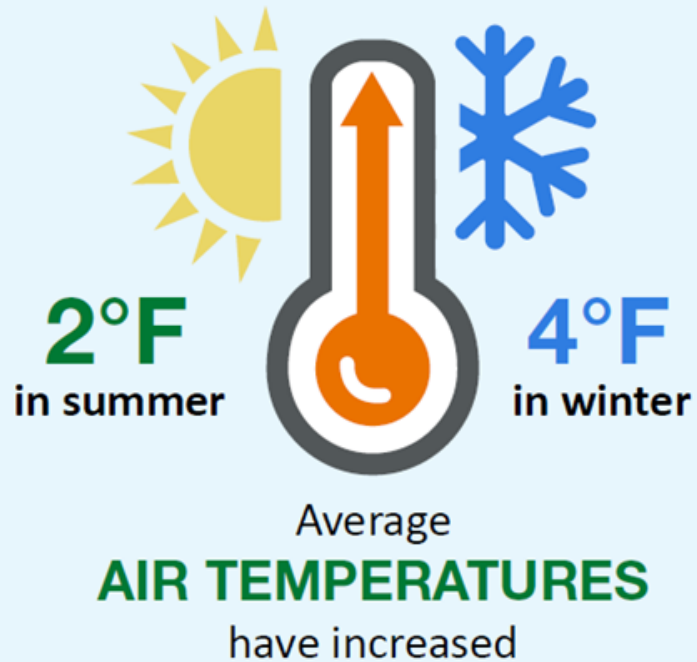


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Climate Change in Vermont

More rain and flooding, changes to agriculture, different forests



 *Not everyone is impacted equally*

Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA), Act 153

Enacted
September 23, 2020



Created the
Climate Council
(First Meeting in
November 2020)

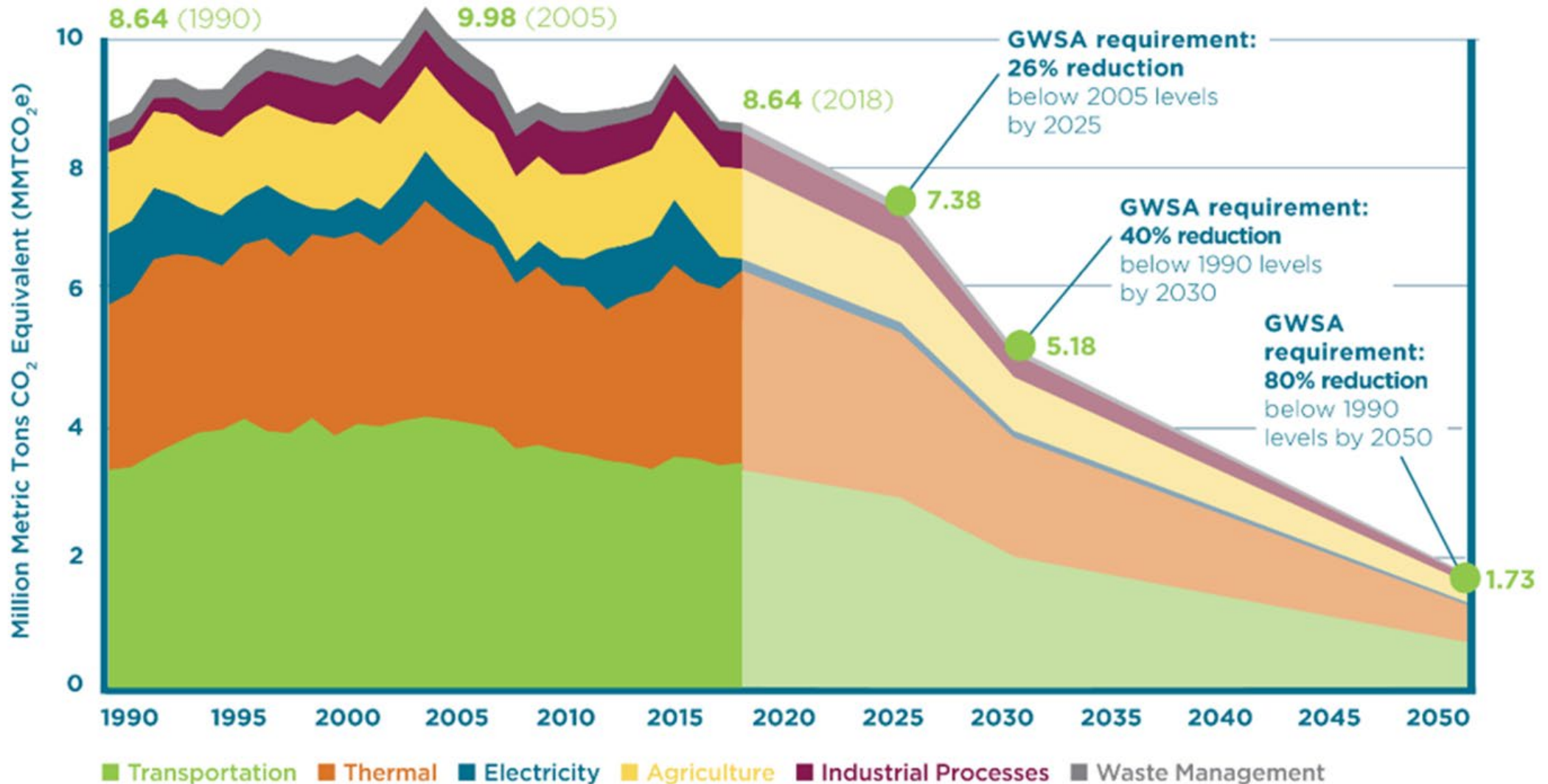


Subcommittees
Begin Meeting
(February 2021)



Adopted the
Climate Action
December 1, 2021

GWSA Emission Reduction Requirements



Source: Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Vermont GHG Emissions Inventory and Forecast (1990-2017), 2021.

GWSA Charge to the Climate Council

1. **Reduce greenhouse gas emissions** from the transportation, building, regulated utility, industrial, commercial, and agricultural sectors;
2. Encourage smart growth and related strategies;
3. **Achieve long-term sequestration and storage of carbon** and promote best management practices to achieve climate mitigation, adaption, and resilience on natural [and] working lands;
4. **Achieve net zero emissions by 2050 across all sectors;**
5. Reduce energy burdens for rural and marginalized communities;
6. Limit the use of chemicals, substances, or products that contribute to climate change; and
7. **Build and encourage climate adaptation and resilience** of Vermont communities and natural systems.

Equity Lens: Guiding Principles for a Just Transition

A framework for the Climate Council and subcommittees to evaluate, adjust and prioritize recommendations based on how they will impact Vermont's impacted and frontline communities.

01

Ensuring inclusive, transparent, and innovative engagement

02

Creating accountable & restorative recommendations

03

Moving at the speed of trust

04

Incorporating solidarity to create inclusionary spaces

05

Prioritizing the most impacted first

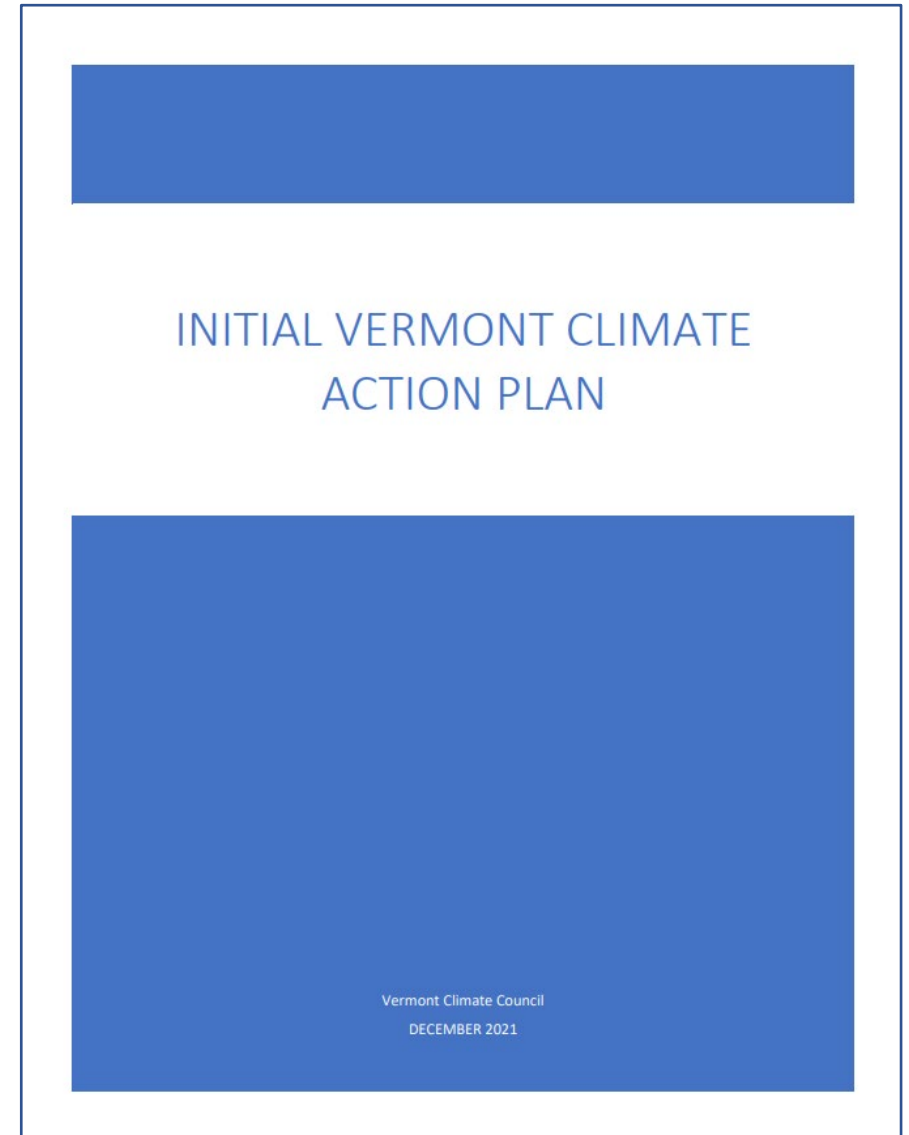
06

Developing supports for workers, families, and communities

In developing the plan, the Council held 7 broad-based engagement events (4 in-person and 3 online sessions) with 521 participants and heard from an additional 1,081 Vermonters through interviews, roundtables, a public survey, and a public comment form.

What Will You Find in the CAP?

- The GWSA established a suite of ambitious goals and requirements
- VCC developed a broad and far-reaching set of recommendations
- Initial Climate Action Plan identifies:
 - 26 pathways
 - Written broadly; high-level
 - 64 strategies
 - Statements of measurable activity
 - 234 specific action steps
 - Operational tasks



Five Impact Areas



Cutting Climate Pollution

Reducing emissions from transportation, buildings, energy and products.



Capturing Carbon

Removing carbon from the air and storing it in soil or plants.



Resilient Working and Natural Lands

Preparing farms, forests and ecosystems for climate change.



Cross-Cutting Solutions

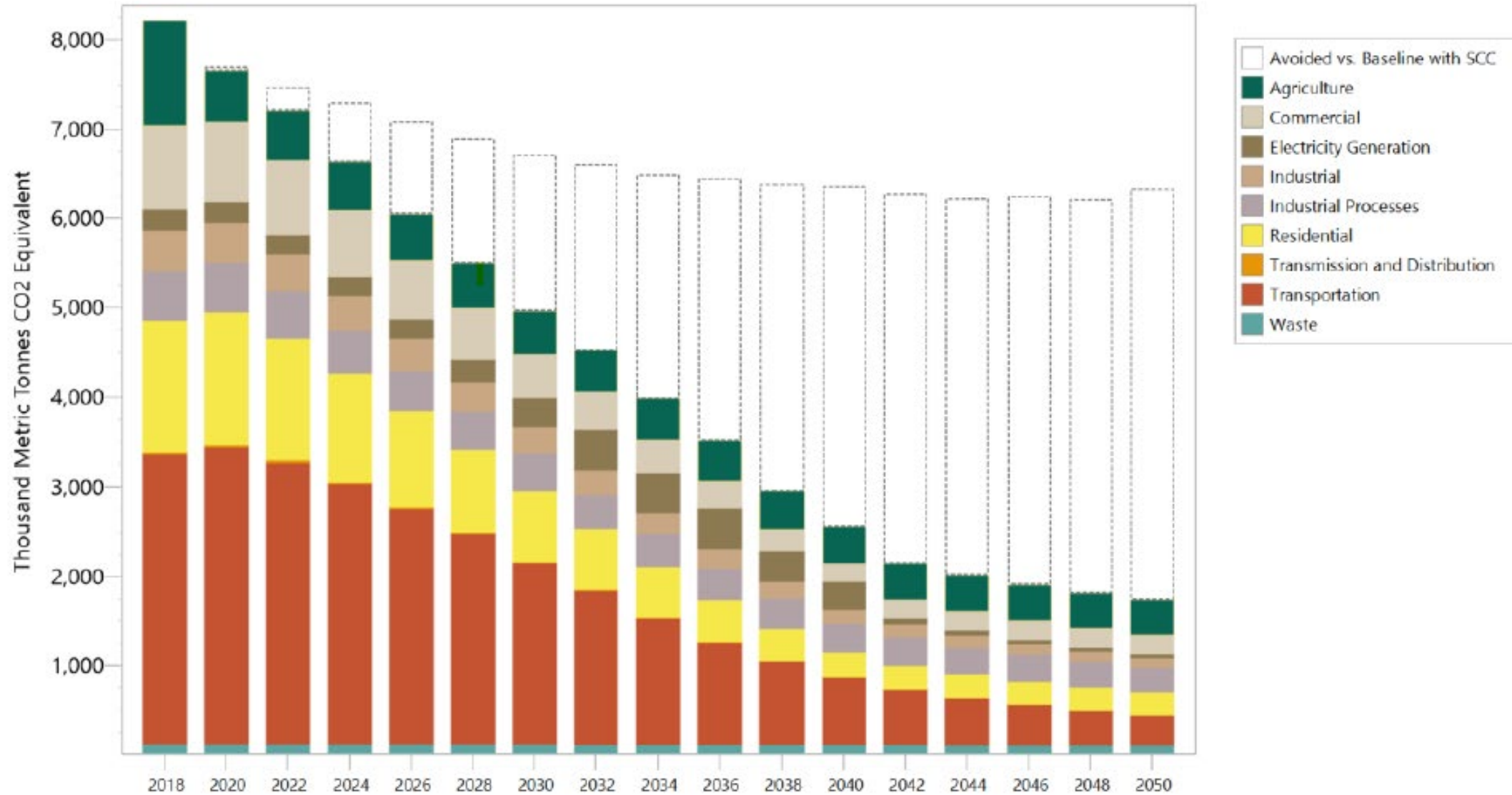
Investing in communities and workforce development.



Vital Communities

Protecting people and infrastructure from climate impacts.

GWSA Requires Aggressive Scale and Pace



Cutting Climate Pollution: Transportation

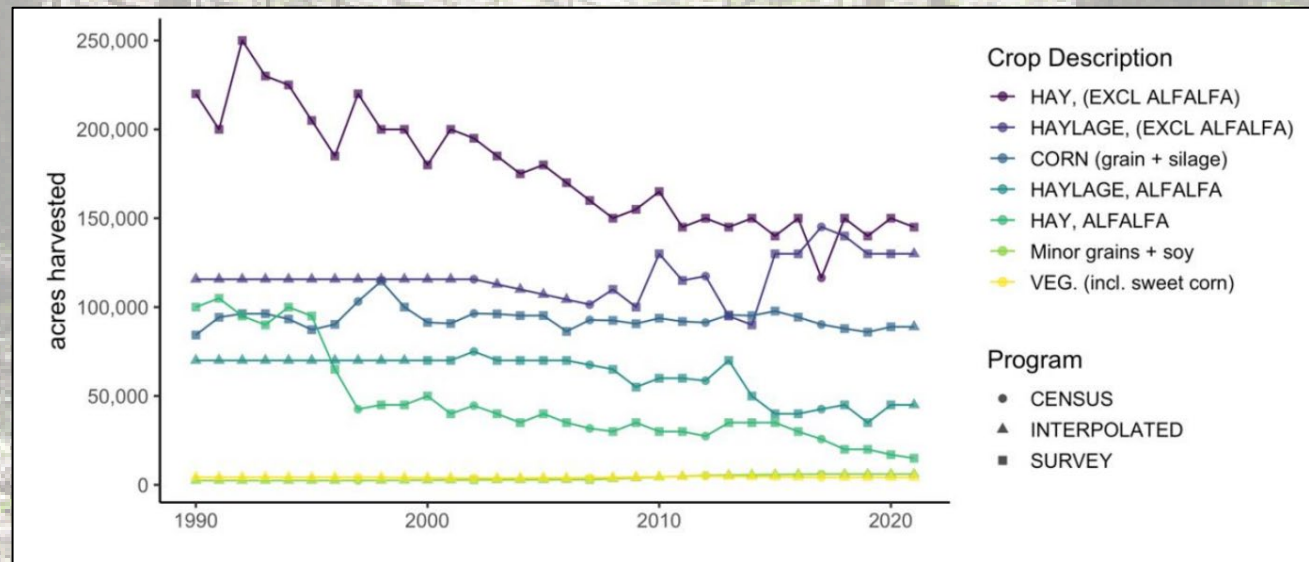
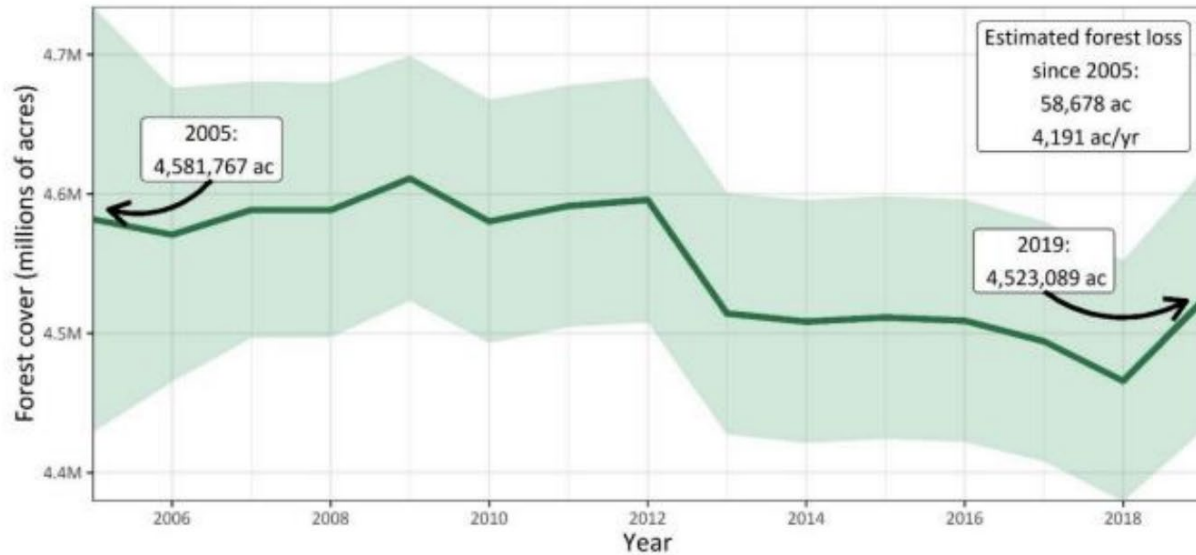
Transportation	2025	2030
Number of EVs	27,000	126,000
EV Share of Sales	17%	68%
VMT Reduction from Baseline	1.9%	3.5%
EV share of VMTs	5%	23%
EV Managed Charging	27%	50%

★ Of the nearly 433,000 vehicles registered in Vermont (328,000 cars; 105,000 light-duty trucks), currently about 1% (<5,000) are ZEVs

Cutting Climate Pollution: Buildings/Thermal

Residential	2025	2030
Homes Weatherized	69,000	120,000
Heat Pumps Installed	96,224	177,107
Heat Pump Water Heaters Installed	63,247	136,558
Homes with Advanced Wood Heat	12,898	14,992
Homes with Biofuels	12,112	21,086

Resilient Natural and Working Lands



Vital Communities



Planning



**Resilient
Infrastructure**



Housing

Cross-Cutting Solutions



Compact Settlement



Workforce Development



Environmental Justice

With the CAP Adopted, What Happens Now?

Legislature

Bills Under Consideration

- Clean Heat Standard
- Municipal Fuel Switching Grant Program
- Environmental Justice
- Housing Bill
- Changes to Act 250
- Transportation initiatives
- Use Value Appraisal program revision
- Community resilience and biodiversity protection
- Creation of a Climate Action Office

Funding

- \$161 million in ARPA dollars proposed for weatherization, other climate initiatives
- Climate Action Office

Support Council Work

- Support diverse appointments to the Council
- Fund technical and contractor support
- Identify policy priorities that support CAP implementation for next biennium

With the CAP Adopted, What Happens Now?

Executive Branch

Ongoing Technical Analyses

- Applying for grants
 - U.S. Climate Alliance
- Preparing/issuing RFPs for technical analyses
 - Tool for measuring and tracking progress
 - Municipal Vulnerability Index
 - Life-Cycle Carbon Analyses

Council Support

- Supporting Council and working groups
 - Biomass Task Group
 - Transportation Task Group
 - Public Engagement Task Group
 - Additional Task Groups associated with Technical Analyses and Implementation

Implementation

- Initiated rulemaking process for Advanced Clean Cars II and Advanced Clean Trucks
- Developing Climate Toolkit

With the CAP Adopted, What Happens Now?

Vermont Climate Council in 2022

Considering Plan Updates for Fall 2022

- Transportation
- Biomass

Implementation Steps in GWSA

- Municipal Vulnerability Index
- Climate Toolkit
- Measuring Progress Tool
- Advise on Rule-Making

Consultation on Technical Studies

- Ag Emissions
- Energy Lifecycle
- Pathways / Mitigation Curve
- Transportation Options

Equitable Engagement

- Plan Accessibility
- Broad engagement
- Targeted engagement with partners

Vermont Climate Council Workplan - Feedback

Advising the Council on its on-going work:

- **What feedback would you most want the Council to hear?**
 - What's working and needs to continue?
 - What areas of climate action need greater attention?
 - Other feedback?