

Carbon Neutrality Plan Revision Update

October 27, 2022

Jenny Niemann
Climate Program Manager
Flagstaff Sustainability Office



Agenda

Carbon Neutrality Plan Revisions

1. Rationale
2. Three types of revisions to the Carbon Neutrality Plan (CNP)
3. Housing Plan incorporation
4. Discussion





Rationale



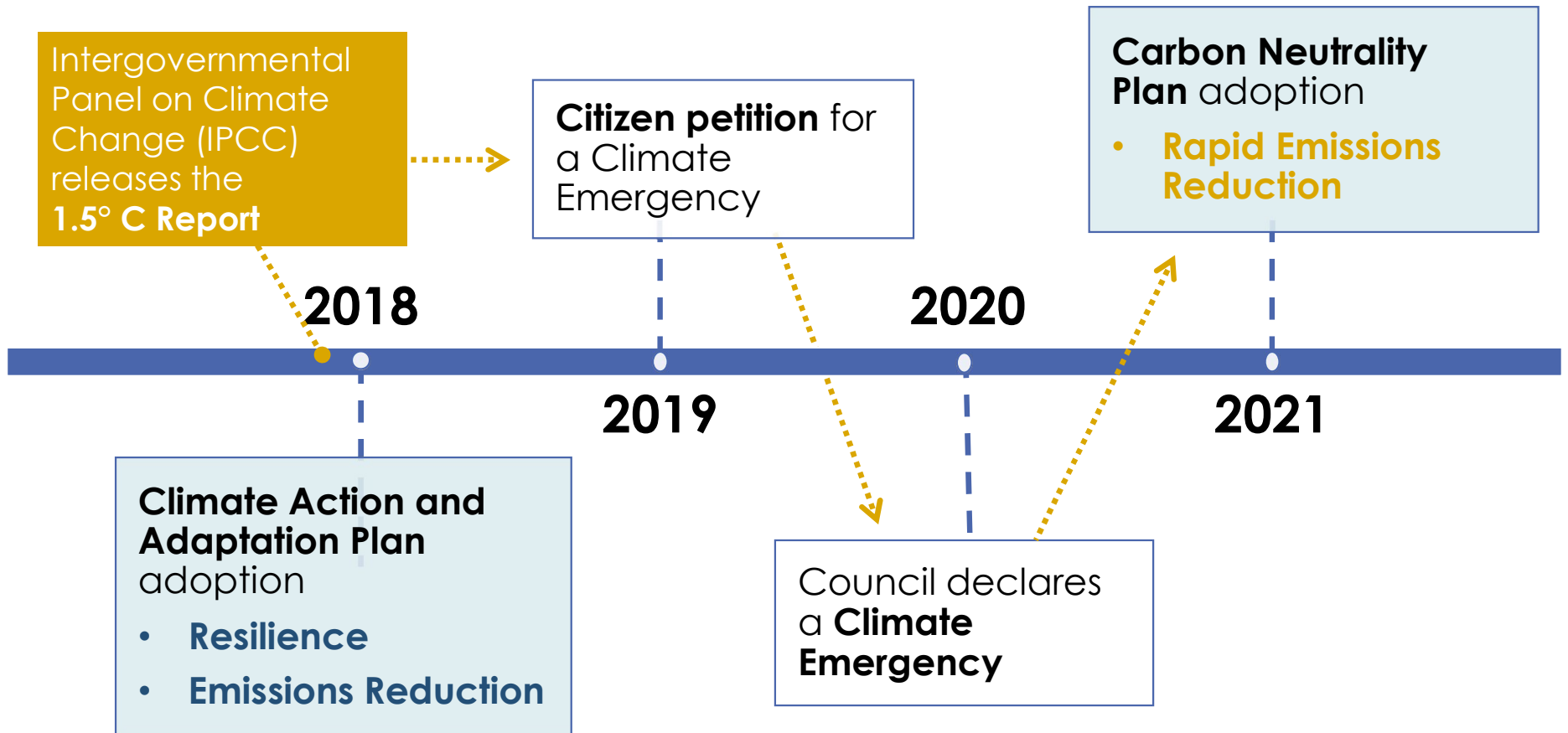
Why a revision?

- The CNP implementation plan includes a commitment to **annual revisions**.

What will be revised?

- Revisions will be limited and administrative in nature.
- We will not substantively change policies.

Timeline





Three Types of Revisions



Incorporation of new information

- **Financial investment** needed
- **Partner** commitments: NAU, FUSD, County
- Adoption of the **Flagstaff 10-year Housing Plan**



Three Types of Revisions



Incorporation of new information

- Financial investment needed
- Partner commitments: NAU, FUSD, County
- Adoption of the Flagstaff 10-year Housing Plan

Standard annual revisions

- **Update our GHG emissions inventory**



Three Types of Revisions



Incorporation of new information

- Financial investment needed
- Partner commitments: NAU, FUSD, County
- Adoption of the Flagstaff 10-year Housing Pla

Standard annual revisions

- Update our GHG emissions inventory

Plan consolidation

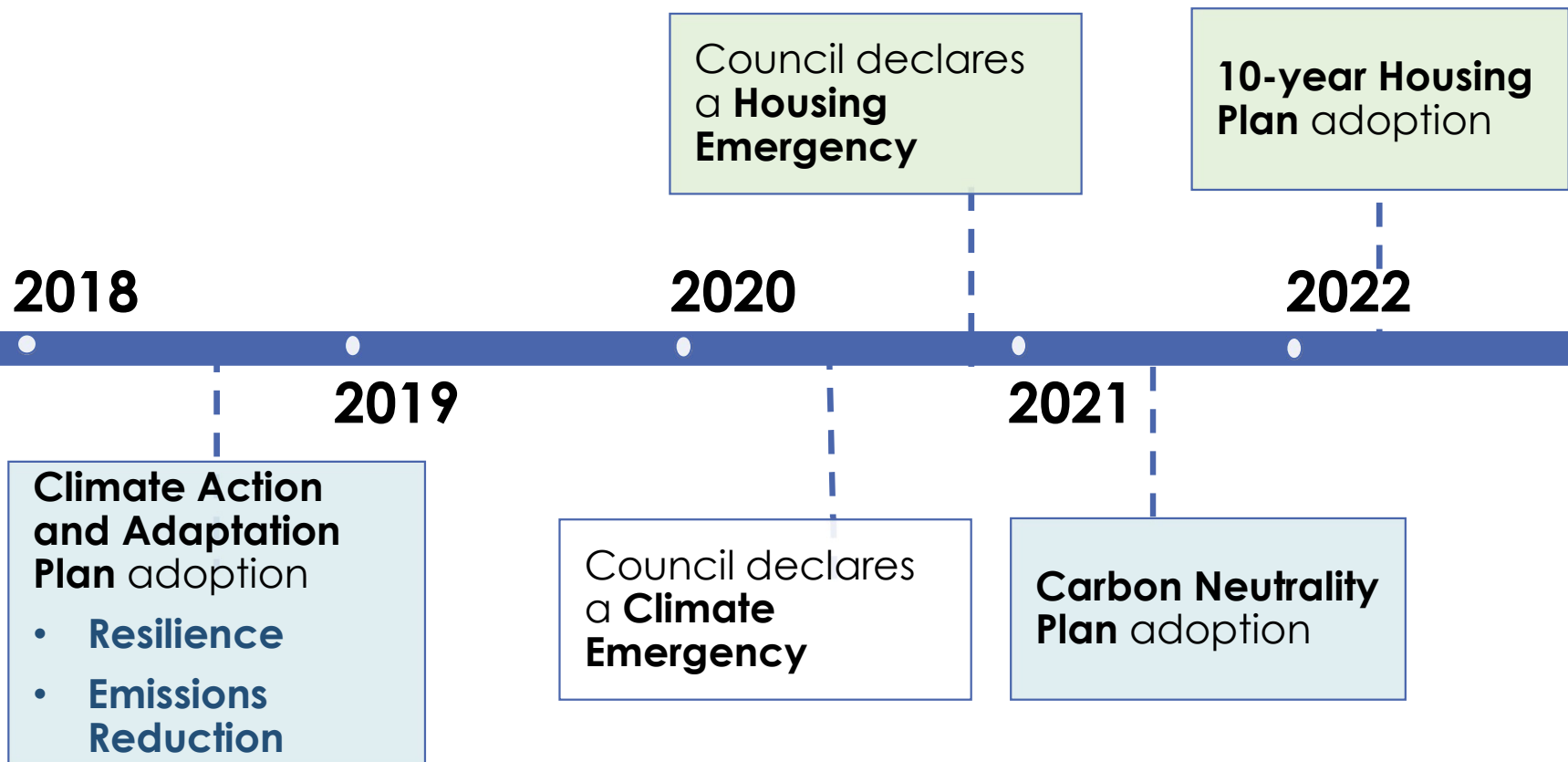
- Incorporate **resilience strategies and actions** from the 2018 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

CNP + the 10-year Housing Plan

We will incorporate the core goals and policy initiatives of the 10-year Housing Plan into the revised Carbon Neutrality Plan.



Timeline





New Information: Housing Plan



Housing is **deeply connected** to both climate change AND climate action.

Equity:

- Increasing visitation and climate migration will likely lead to further housing challenges.
- Cost of living is impacted by housing, transportation, *and* utility costs.
- Climate change affect will be the most severe for our most vulnerable residents.

Emissions:

- We can reduce emissions from transportation through infill development, higher-density neighborhoods and mixed uses.
- We can reduce emissions from buildings when we build dense, efficient, electric-powered buildings.

Resilience:

- Housing security, passive survivability, and neighborhood strength all have large impacts on community resilience.



New Information: Housing Plan



The Flagstaff 10-year Housing Plan

- To reflect the February 2022 adoption of the 10-year Housing Plan, and the close ties between Housing and Climate goals, we will incorporate the Housing Plan into the CNP.
- To do this, we will make the following **CNP revisions**:
 - Create a new Target Area focused exclusively on Housing, incorporating the overarching housing goal into the CNP.
 - Create four new strategies, addressing the Housing Plan Policy initiatives: Create, Connect, Preserve, Protect





New Information: Housing Plan



THE FLAGSTAFF CARBON NEUTRALITY PLAN

Housing

Flagstaff will create a vibrant and more livable community through increased housing options for residents at all income levels and family sizes.

HOUSING IS A COLLECTIVE BENEFIT

There is a strong and growing movement among Flagstaff community members, housing advocates, and City Council to ensure all Flagstaff residents have access to affordable housing. On December 1, 2020, City Council declared a Housing Emergency in Flagstaff, committing to prioritizing affordable housing within City operations to create safe, decent, and affordable housing opportunities for all community members. This Plan will begin with the basics, defining what affordable housing means and how affordable, accessible, and decent housing is of critical importance to our community's overall health and viability.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines affordable housing as spending no more than 30% of monthly gross income on housing costs. Households that spend more than 30% on rent or mortgage costs are considered "housing cost burdened"; households spending more than 50% are "severely housing cost burdened." Throughout this Plan, "affordable housing" will be defined as households paying 30% or less of monthly gross income towards the home in which they reside, using HUD's definition.

In an expensive housing market like Flagstaff's, some form of subsidy is necessary for housing to be affordable for many lower income households. Housing subsidies come in many forms. Housing subsidy types include rental assistance, eviction prevention, and down payment assistance. Other forms include non-profit affordable housing, public housing, voucher programs, and some forms of co-operative and private sector housing. Throughout this Plan, the term "housing subsidy" is defined as any form of financial assistance aimed towards decreasing housing costs.

The stories we hear from residents and local reports verify that a lack of affordable housing is not just an individual problem, but rather a community problem that has collective consequences that negatively impact Flagstaff. This Plan demonstrates how the consequences of failing to create, preserve, and provide access to affordable housing in Flagstaff are linked to lasting negative effects on our neighborhoods,^{1,2,3} health, children,^{4,5} environment,⁶ and jobs.⁷ This Plan provides a path forward for the next ten years and solutions to reducing Flagstaff's Housing Emergency.





CNP Revisions



Thank you!

Staff will provide a more detailed presentation at the November Housing Commission meeting – reviewing both these revisions, and the Sustainability Section.

Jenny Niemann
Climate Program Manager
JNiemann@flagstaffaz.gov
928-213-2150