

TOWN OF CANMORE

AGENDA

Committee of the Whole

Council Chamber at the Canmore Civic Centre, 902 – 7 Avenue

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

Times are estimates only.

- 1:00 – 1:05 **A. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
1. Land Acknowledgement
 2. Agenda for the June 18, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting
- B. DELEGATIONS – None**
- C. MINUTES**
- 1:05 1. Minutes of the May 21, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting
- D. STAFF REPORTS**
- 1:05 – 2:05 1. **Climate Emergency Action Plan**
 Purpose: To provide the Committee of the Whole an overview of the
 Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- 2:05 – 2:15 **Meeting Break**
- 2:15 – 2:55 2. **Permanent Resident Tax Program Implementation Plan Update**
 Purpose: To provide an update on the key actions required to implement a
 permanent resident tax program, as directed by Council on January 9, 2024.
- 2:55 – 3:15 3. **Budget Update**
 Purpose: To provide an update on the planning and process for developing
 the Budgets and Business Plans for 2025-2030.
- E. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**
- 3:15 – 3:20 1. June 2024 Councillor Updates
- F. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**
- 3:20 – 3:25 1. June 2024 Administrative Update
- G. COUNCIL RESOLUTION ACTION LIST**
- 3:25 1. Council Resolution Action List as of June 12, 2024
- H. CORRESPONDENCE**
- 3:25 1. To Premier Smith and Minister McIver regarding Bills 18 and 20
 2. To Premier Smith re Clarify Funding for Municipalities
 3. From Minister McIver regarding Bill 20 House Amendments
 4. From Minister McIver regarding 2024 LGFF Funding

I. CLOSED SESSION – None

3:25

J. ADJOURNMENT

**TOWN OF CANMORE
MINUTES**

Committee of the Whole
Council Chambers at the Civic Centre, 902 – 7 Avenue
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Sean Krausert	Mayor
Jeff Mah	Deputy Mayor (via Zoom)
Tanya Foubert	Councillor
Wade Graham	Councillor
Jeff Hilstad	Councillor
Karen Marra	Councillor
Joanna McCallum	Councillor

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Sally Caudill	Chief Administrative Officer
Therese Rogers	General Manager of Corporate Services
Whitney Smithers	General Manager of Municipal Infrastructure
Scott McKay	General Manager of Municipal Services
Ben Stiver	Municipal Clerk (recorder)
Greg Burt	Municipal Enforcement Supervisor
Joshua Cairns	Senior Policy Planner (via Zoom)
Caroline Hedin	Communications Advisor
Katherine van Keimpema	Financial Strategy Manager
Caitlin van Gaal	Supervisor of Environmental and Sustainability

Mayor Krausert called the May 21, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 1. Land Acknowledgement**
- 2. Agenda for the May 21, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting**

19-2024COW Moved by Mayor Krausert that the Committee of the Whole approve the agenda for the May 21, 2024 meeting as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. DELEGATIONS – none

C. MINUTES

20-2024COW

1. Minutes of the April 16, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Moved by Mayor Krausert that the Committee of the Whole approve the minutes of the April 16, 2024 meeting as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. STAFF REPORTS

1. Connect Downtown – Update on Visioning Phase

Administration spoke to a written report providing an update on the Visioning phase of Connect Downtown, including what we heard through community and stakeholder engagement.

2. Phase Out Tourist Home Designation Implementation Plan Update

Administration spoke to a written report providing an update on the key steps required to phase out the Tourist Homes designation, as directed by Council on January 9, 2024.

Meeting Break from 2:15 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.

3. Keep Wildlife Alive Social Norms Campaign: 2023 Ambassador Pilot Program

Administration, alongside Anna Christensen and Nick De Ruyter from the Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley, spoke to a written report providing an overview of the 2023 Keep Wildlife Alive Ambassador summer pilot program.

E. COUNCILLOR UPDATES

1. May 2024 Councillor Updates

Written report, received as information.

F. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

1. May 2024 Administrative Update

Written report, received as information.

G. COUNCIL RESOLUTION ACTION LIST

1. Council Resolution Action List as of May 15, 2024

Written report, received as information.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

1. From Minister of Forestry and Parks regarding Alberta Wildfire Prevention and Support

I. CLOSED SESSION – none

Minutes approved by: _____

J. ADJOURNMENT

21-2024COW

Moved by Mayor Krausert that the Committee of the Whole adjourn the May 21, 2024 meeting at 2:55 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Sean Krausert
Mayor

Ben Stiver
Municipal Clerk

Minutes approved by: _____



Briefing

DATE OF MEETING: June 18, 2024 **Agenda #: D 1**

To: Committee of the Whole

SUBJECT: Climate Emergency Action Plan

SUBMITTED BY: Caitlin Van Gaal, Supervisor of Environment and Sustainability

PURPOSE: To provide the Committee of the Whole an overview of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2022, as part of the 2023 Capital Budget, Council approved the development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan (#7308) (CEAP). The CEAP was designed to guide the Town of Canmore (Town) on its environment and climate related actions, building off the previous environmental guiding documents, Council’s Strategic Plan, and Council’s declaration of a climate emergency. The CEAP touches on both climate change mitigation (greenhouse gas reduction) and climate change adaptation (preparing for a changing climate) and puts forward a series of recommendations and implementation actions that are designed and based on scientific consensus, municipal best practices, public and stakeholder engagement, and climate modelling. The recommended actions not only support climate mitigation and preparedness, but they also support community well-being, social equity and paint a picture of a healthier, resilient, and inclusive community.

This briefing is intended to provide the Committee of the Whole with an overview of the CEAP and the annexes included within the CEAP. Administration is bringing the CEAP to the Committee of the Whole to provide members the opportunity to review the report and ask questions of the consultants in advance of the report coming forward to Council for consideration and acceptance on July 2, 2024.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

In 2022, Council approved the Climate Emergency Action Plan – Development (CAP 7308) capital project as part of the 2023/24 Budget. The intent of this project was to update and replace the Town’s current environmental guiding documents – Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (2010), Climate Change Adaptation Background Report and Resilience Plan (2016), and the Climate Action Plan (2018).

In 2019, Council declared a Climate Emergency (207-2019).

In July 2023, Council approved the addition of \$80,000 in grant funding from the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre to CAP 7308 (166-2023). The additional grant funding allowed the Town to complete a more in-depth analysis of the climate risks to the Town and to incorporate consideration of a carbon budget.

DISCUSSION

Throughout 2023 and early 2024, Administration worked with Sustainable Solutions Group (SSG) to develop and complete the CEAP. As stated above, the CEAP brings together both climate change mitigation (greenhouse gas emission reduction) and climate change adaptation (preparing for a changing climate) into one document that examines the co-benefits and synergies between the two and their recommended actions. The CEAP also has a strong focus on equity, ensuring that the recommended actions do not adversely impact the more vulnerable sectors and people of the community. The CEAP is a more robust and detailed strategy than the previous guiding documents and is the Town's next progression and advancement in its efforts to address climate change.

In the CEAP development, SSG utilized both quantitative and qualitative data gathered through scientific modelling, assessments of best practices, stakeholder interviews and public engagement to form recommendations and implementation actions. The recommendations in the CEAP are designed to safeguard the well-being of both residents and visitors, while creating a sustainable, economically thriving, resilient and low carbon community.

The CEAP includes seven key themes:

1. **“Municipal Leadership”** sets the tone, highlighting the critical role of the Town in guiding, exemplifying, and facilitating climate action. It underscores the necessity for developing a municipal carbon budget, retrofitting public buildings, and electrifying the Town fleet.
2. **“Resilient, Efficient Buildings”** targets the reduction of emissions from Canmore's building stock. It advocates for energy-efficient retrofitting of existing buildings and adopting stringent standards for new construction, ensuring buildings are not only energy-efficient but also resilient to climate impacts.
3. **“Clean Resilient Energy”** focuses on the shift to renewable energy sources, crucial for reducing the reliance on fossil fuels. This includes promoting solar installations and exploring community-level renewable energy projects.
4. **“Safe and Protected Natural Spaces”** focuses on preserving Canmore's unique natural environment. This involves managing forests and water bodies to mitigate risks like wildfires and floods while enhancing their role in carbon sequestration and ecosystem health.
5. **“Emergency Preparedness for All”** recognizes the importance of preparing the community for climate-induced emergencies. It involves creating robust response plans, ensuring efficient evacuation routes, and educating the community on emergency preparedness.
6. Transportation, a significant emission source, is addressed in **“Rethinking Transportation and Mobility”**. It envisions a shift to electric vehicles, enhanced public transit, and improved infrastructure for active transportation like walking and biking.
7. **“Efficient Waste, Water, and Wastewater Management”** emphasizes safeguarding essential services against climate impacts and managing resources efficiently. This includes implementing strategies for water conservation and waste reduction and ensuring the resilience of wastewater management systems.

The detailed breakdown of each recommended action under these seven key themes can be found in Attachment 2 – Annex 1 Implementation Table.

In addition to the recommendations provided in the CEAP, the report provides a narrative and story of how the CEAP is structured and set up to be a guiding document for the Town. The CEAP highlights that it is

not just a story about climate change in the traditional sense; rather, it is about transformation and foresight. The story weaves together economic resilience and community harmony, painting a picture of a future where every action and decision shapes a better tomorrow.

The final document package for this project consists of the main CEAP document, which is designed to be a standalone document that is publicly digestible, and 10 supporting documents referred to as Annexes. All the background information that went into the development of the main document can be found in these Annexes (Annex 1 – 10). Given the size of the annexes, it's not possible to provide all of them on the Town's website. With the exception of Annex 1 (which will be posted online with the CEAP), they will be available to the public upon request. Below is a summary of the information found within the CEAP and each Annex:

CEAP: This standalone, overarching document brings together the key themes and messages contained in the various Annexes. The CEAP sets the Town's emission reduction targets to align with the federal targets of net zero by 2050. It also highlights the key climate hazards and risks to the community, with wildfire, steep creek and riverine flooding ranking the highest. Further details can be found within Attachment 1 – Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Annex 1 - Implementation Table: This Annex is a table summary of all the recommended actions proposed within the CEAP. The table highlights the co-benefits, relative community cost, lead departments, implementation timeline and key community partners for each action (Attachment 2).

Annex 2 - DMA Mitigation: The Data, Methods and Assumptions Mitigation Annex is a summary of all data sources and assumptions that went into the GHG reduction models.

Annex 3 - DMA Adaptation: The Data, Methods and Assumptions Adaptation Annex is a summary of all data sources and assumptions that went into the development of the Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) (Annex 5) and Adaptation Opportunities Assessment (Annex 6).

Annex 4 - Engagement Summary: This Annex details all the public engagement that took place throughout the development of the CEAP and how that input was incorporated into the final CEAP.

Annex 5 - CRVA: This Annex highlights the key climate hazards for Canmore, and how those hazards are anticipated to change over time.

Annex 6 – Adaptation Opportunities Assessment Summary: This Annex showcases how the climate hazards identified within the CRVA are anticipated to change as steps and actions are taken to mitigate those hazards.

Annex 7 - Carbon Budget Approach: This Annex details what a carbon budget and accounting system is, how to effectively implement a carbon budget and what the carbon budget is for Canmore year over year until 2050.

Annex 8 - Equity Analysis: This Annex is a review of the different social factors that are present within the community, broken down by Census Canada Dissemination Areas. This report highlights key actions that are recommended within the CEAP that would be most relevant to different areas of the community.

Annex 9 - Financial Analysis: This Annex outlines the various financial assumptions that went into the development of the greenhouse gas (GHG) models and various emission reduction pathways - Business As Usual, Business As Planned and the Low Carbon Scenario.

Annex 10 – Implementation Risk Analysis: This Annex is primarily an internally focused document to help the Town assess the risks of implementing the plan, as well as not implementing the plan.

Please note that Annexes 2 – 10 are not printed within the Committee of the Whole agenda package due to their size. They are publicly available upon request to sustainability@canmore.ca and have been provided to Council separately.

Moving to Implementation:

As an initial step towards implementation, Administration will be returning to Council on July 2, 2024, to request that Council accept the CEAP for planning purposes. While the CEAP identifies rough community and corporate costs and resource requirements, it is not intended to be prescriptive. The CEAP is intended to inform decisions going forward and to provide an accurate account of the level of effort, resources and costs are needed to adequately address climate change. The actions in the CEAP are ambitious and serve as a goalpost to work towards over the next 25 years.

At the July 2, 2024, Council meeting, in addition to accepting the CEAP for planning purposes, Council will be asked to rescind the previous environmental guiding documents (Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, Climate Change Adaptation Background Report and Resilience Plan, and Climate Action Plan). Rescinding the previous environmental guiding documents will leave the Town with one key strategic document to guide the Town on its climate and environment related work. Items within the previous guiding documents related to Human Wildlife Coexistence have been brought forward in the Human Wildlife Coexistence Implementation and Action Plan that were accepted for planning purposes on March 5, 2024.

Administration has also begun to meet with internal subject matter experts, managers, and the Corporate Strategic Team to go over the recommended actions in detail and look at how to incorporate those actions in the priority-based business planning process and for consideration in the Council Budget for 2025-26 and beyond.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The development of the CEAP cost \$211,000, with \$80,000 coming from grant funding and the rest from the Sustainability Reserve. As the CEAP is a long-term strategy for addressing climate change, community wellbeing, affordability, and equity, the CEAP takes a multi-solving approach to climate action and identifies actions extending out over 10+ years. Recommended actions will be considered and prioritized with all other key strategic priorities and either integrated into other projects/programs or brought forward for Council consideration during the appropriate budgeting process and timeline.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

During the development of the CEAP, Administration with the support of SSG, undertook a comprehensive pre-engagement process which identified the best approach to community engagement for the project. Administration also prioritized conducting diverse engagement activities with an emphasis on equity, including inclusivity and accessibility in engagement, and being transparent and open to feedback.

The engagement that took place in the development of the CEAP consisted of:

- Two online town halls
- Two equity-focused workshops
- Two community focus group sessions
- Dedicated sessions with community organizations: BOWDA, Businesses and Tourism, Environmental Groups
- A public survey – open for one month
- Eight in person “pop up” engagement sessions in the community, supported by the Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley.
- Individual staff interviews and two larger staff group engagement sessions
- Interviews with subject matter experts in the community
- Draft action review by key community organization: BOWDA, TCK, BIA, Environmental Groups
- Staff interviews on the finalized draft actions
- Meeting and question and answer session with the Town’s Corporate Strategic Team
- Moving to implementation workshop with the Senior Leadership Team

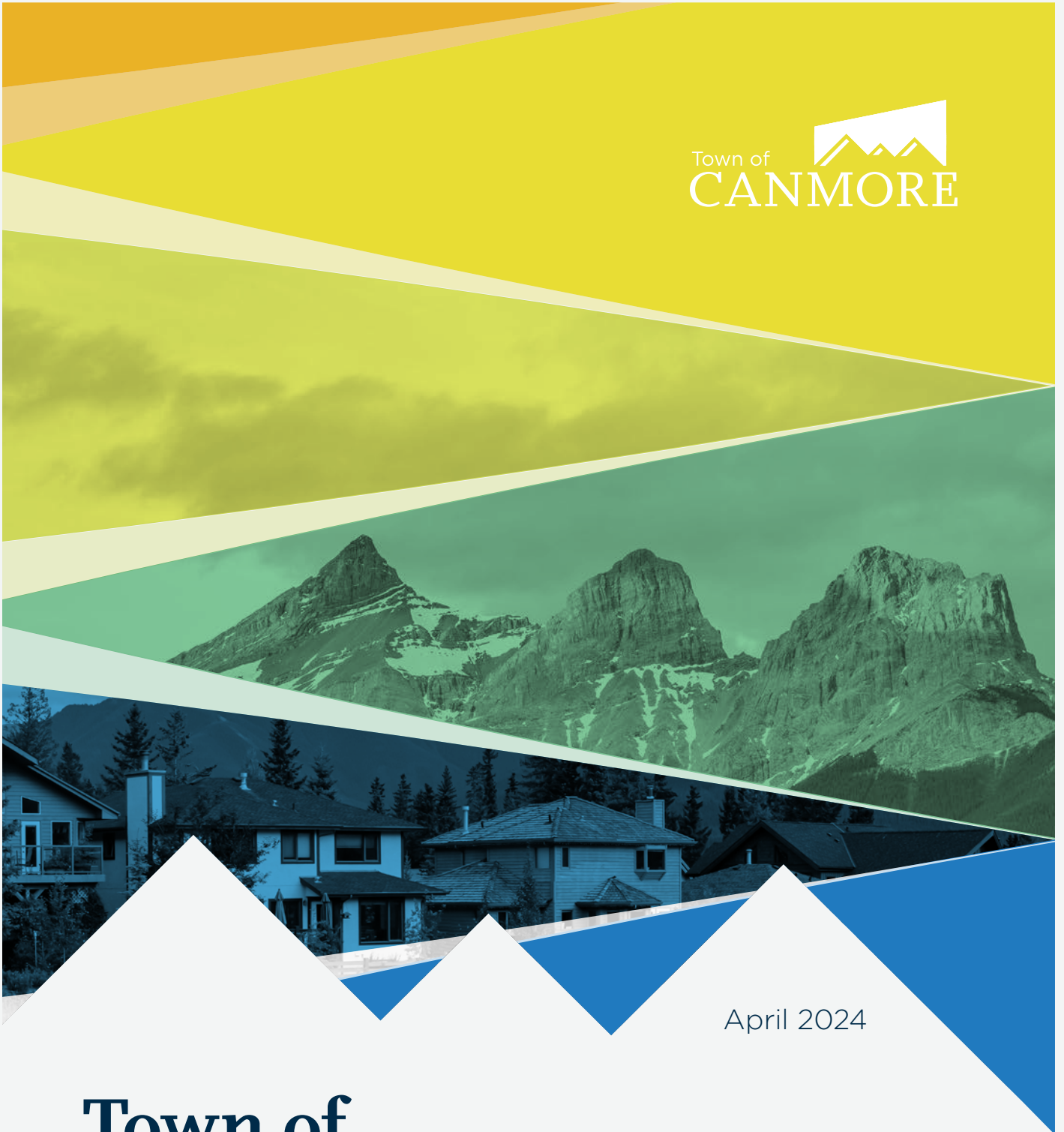
All recommended actions have been circulated internally for feedback and input through staff interviews and two staff workshops. Engagement on the draft actions also took place with key community stakeholders, such as, The Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley, Bow Valley Climate Action, BOWDA, Tourism Canmore Kananaskis and the Chamber of Commerce.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Climate Emergency Action Plan
- 2) Annex 1 – Implementation Table

AUTHORIZATION

Submitted by:	Caitlin Van Gaal Supervisor of Environment and Sustainability	Date: <u>May 23, 2024</u>
Approved by:	Andreas Comeau Manager of Public Works	Date: <u>May 29, 2024</u>
Approved by:	Whitney Smithers General Manager of Municipal Infrastructure	Date: <u>May 30, 2024</u>
Approved by:	Sally Caudill Chief Administrative Officer	Date: <u>June 11, 2024</u>



April 2024

Town of **CANMORE**

Climate Emergency Action Plan

Prepared for:

Town of Canmore

Prepared by:

Sustainability Solutions Group

Designed by SSG

April 2024

Source of images: Adobe Stock, under SSG's license.



Acknowledgments

Land Acknowledgement

The Town of Canmore is located within the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta. In the spirit of respect, reciprocity and truth, we honour and acknowledge the Canmore area, known as “Chuwapchipchiyan Kudi Bi” (translated in Stoney Nakoda as “shooting at the willows”) and the traditional Treaty 7 territory and oral practices of the Îyârhe Nakoda (Stoney Nakoda)—comprised of the Bearspaw First Nation, Chiniki First Nation, and Goodstoney First Nation—as well as the Tsuut’ina First Nation and the Blackfoot Confederacy comprised of the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai. We acknowledge that this land is also home to the Rocky View Métis District 4 within the Battle River Territory. We acknowledge all Nations who live, work, and play and help us steward this land and honour and celebrate this territory. We commit to working to live in right relations and to advance Truth and Reconciliation.

Project Team Acknowledgement

Consultant Team - SSG

Naomi Devine, Project Lead
 Camilla Melrose, Lead Analyst
 Amber Nicol, Lead Modeller
 Chris Strashok, Senior Modeller
 Erica Brook, Engagement Lead
 Alia Dharssi, Engagement Analyst
 Yuill Herbert, Project Advisor

Town of Canmore Project Team

Caitlin Van Gaal, Supervisor of Environment and Sustainability
 Amy Fournier, Energy and Climate Action Coordinator

Disclaimer

Reasonable skill, care, and diligence have been exercised to assess the information acquired during the preparation of this analysis, but no guarantees or warranties are made regarding the accuracy or completeness of this information. This document, the information it contains, the information and basis on which it relies, and the associated factors are subject to changes that are beyond the control of the authors. The information provided by others is believed to be accurate but has not been independently verified.

This analysis includes strategic-level estimates of data about the Town of Canmore that should not be relied upon for project-level implementation without verification. The authors do not accept responsibility for the use of this analysis for any purpose other than that stated above or for any third-party use, in whole or in part, of the contents of this document. The suggestions in this plan apply to the Town of Canmore and cannot be applied to other jurisdictions without the appropriate analysis. Any use by the Town of Canmore, its sub-consultants, or any third party, or any reliance on or decisions based on this document, are the responsibility of the user or third party.

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How to Read this Climate Emergency Action Plan

This Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) for the Town of Canmore is a strategic guide for proactively addressing the multifaceted impacts of climate change. The guide includes both mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Essential Components of the CEAP

Essential components of the CEAP include the following:

- **Introduction and Context:** An overview of current corporate and community emissions. This section also recounts the Town's achievements in taking climate action and stories from the community that underscore the urgency and impact of these initiatives.
- **Progress and Targets:** Highlights of the Town's strides in mitigating and adapting to climate change, with a focus on identifying greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets and protecting the community against climate hazards.
- **Climate Change Impacts:** An overview of how climate change is affecting the Town, and how this is expected to change in the future.
- **GHG Reduction Actions:** Specific, measurable actions designed to achieve the Town's GHG reduction targets (climate change mitigation).
- **Climate Change Impact Scenario and Actions:** Modelled scenarios for climate resilience and specific actions to adapt to current and future climate impacts (climate change adaptation).
- **Pathway Analysis:** An analysis of the financial, economic, and other implications, including co-benefits, of the strategies and actions outlined for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- **Carbon Accounting Framework:** A summary of the Town's Carbon Budget and accounting framework as a tool to effectively manage the annual carbon emission cap for the Town.
- **Community Engagement:** The process of community engagement, its outcomes, and how it has shaped the CEAP.
- **Implementation Plan:** The strategy for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the plan's effectiveness and adaptability.

The CEAP aims to be a coherent, compelling, and accessible document, effectively guiding the Town's efforts in both reducing GHGs and adapting to climate change. It is structured to provide clarity and ease of understanding, ensuring the plan is not only a strategic-level document but also a practical guide for future action.

Strategic-Level Plan vs. Feasibility Plan

A strategic-level plan is a high-level document that outlines an organization's overall goals and objectives, and the strategies and actions that will be taken to achieve them. It typically covers a longer time horizon than a feasibility plan, and provides a broad overview of the organization's direction and plans.

A feasibility study, on the other hand, is a detailed analysis of a specific project or proposed course of action to determine if it is viable and likely to be successful. It typically includes a thorough examination of the technical, economic, and operational aspects of the project, as well as an assessment of any risks or challenges that may need to be addressed.

The bottom line: This document is a strategic-level plan. It outlines what is necessary to achieve a low-carbon, climate resilient future for Canmore. It will guide the implementation of actions and provide direction for future feasibility studies related to actions where viability needs to be determined for implementation to be successful.

A New Story for Canmore

In the heart of the Rockies, Canmore is writing a new story. This story is not about climate change in the traditional sense; rather, it is about transformation and foresight, led by the Town's Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP). This tale weaves together economic resilience and community harmony, painting a picture of a future where every action and decision shapes a better tomorrow.

The economic chapter of this story highlights Canmore as a hub of innovation and growth. It envisions a town where the streets buzz with the energy of new enterprises grounded in sustainability—from bustling startups in renewable energy to booming businesses in eco-tourism. These aren't just ventures aiming to protect the environment; they represent a new economic frontier. In this tale, Canmore is a beacon of progress, attracting entrepreneurs and investors who are drawn by the town's vision of marrying economic prosperity with environmental stewardship. It's a testament to the Town's ability to adapt, innovate, and lead in an ever-changing local and global landscape.

Parallel to this economic transformation is a focus on the community's well-being. It's a story where improved air quality, more efficient and resilient buildings, and expanded green spaces aren't just checkboxes for environmental compliance but are vital chapters in enhancing residents' quality of life. Interwoven into this narrative is the thoughtful safeguarding of residents' homes against climate challenges like flooding, wildfire, and smoke. This approach reflects a deeper commitment, where climate goals are aligned with ensuring a secure, joyful community, illustrating that the essence of Canmore lies in both its vibrant economy and the safe havens of its homes. This Canmore is a place where health and happiness are as much a priority as economic indicators.

This is also about creating spaces where communities thrive, where every park and street corner becomes a haven for social interaction, relaxation, and connection with nature. It's a narrative that places people at the centre—where every decision made today is with an eye toward securing a livable, prosperous future for all residents.

This narrative of Canmore's future, guided by the CEAP, isn't just a tale of optimism and ambition; it's a story about undertaking what is both challenging and necessary. It acknowledges that the path ahead is not one of ease, but of complexity and diligence.

Achieving a harmonious balance between economic growth and environmental stewardship, between community well-being and sustainable development, requires a level of dedication and innovation that goes beyond the ordinary. This chapter of Canmore's journey is marked by tough decisions, bold moves, and a willingness to venture into uncharted territories. It's about

making choices today that will shape a more resilient and prosperous town for the future, recognizing that the greatest achievements often stem from embracing and overcoming challenges. The CEAP isn't just a plan; it's a commitment to a vision that requires courage, foresight, and collective effort to turn it into reality.

As this story unfolds toward 2050, the CEAP becomes Canmore's north star, ensuring that with each step taken, the town moves closer to a vision of sustainability, economic vitality, and community well-being. It's a sophisticated blueprint, embracing change, seizing opportunity, and forging a legacy that will be told for generations to come.

The Climate Action Imperative

Canmore is a growing community, with the population expected to grow from 16,100 permanent residents in 2021 to 27,000 people by 2050—a growth of 63%.¹ This growth comes with the need to house, employ, transport, and support the additional population, with added pressures to developable land within the town boundary.

Canmore currently sees between 3–5 million visitors annually, and 26% of total dwellings are second homes (about 4,000 semi-permanent residents). The importance of tourism in Canmore's economy highlights the need to consider those who do not live permanently in the town in climate action planning.

The Town of Canmore has a history of leadership on environmental issues starting all the way back in 1999, when the Town joined the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Partners in Climate Protection (PCP) Program. Since then, the Town has adopted the Energy Management Action Plan in 2005, the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) in 2010 (updated in 2013), and the Climate Action Plan in 2018.

Each mitigation plan is supported by an updated greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and each successive iteration has included newer, more aggressive GHG reduction goals. Currently, Canmore's emissions reduction targets are to reduce corporate and community emissions by 30% by 2030, and 80% below 2015 levels by 2050. An update to the climate plan will propose a new target of net-zero emissions by 2050. Canmore is a signatory to both the PCP Program and the international Global Covenant of Mayors, which requires periodic GHG emissions reporting.

¹ Population from Statistics Canada (15,990 people in 2021) adjusted for the census undercount in the CIS model.

Introduction

With a progressive Council and supportive, engaged residents, Canmore has put in place a number of emissions reductions programs and initiatives including:

- The incentive-based Green Building Regulation (GBR);
- A limit on house sizes to 325 square metres;
- The Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) for energy upgrades financing;
- The Home Upgrade Program for low-income households;
- The residential and commercial Solar Incentive Programs;
- Local and regional transit via the ROAM program;
- Fare-free local transit;
- Composting programs; and
- Cycling and subsidized e-bike programs.

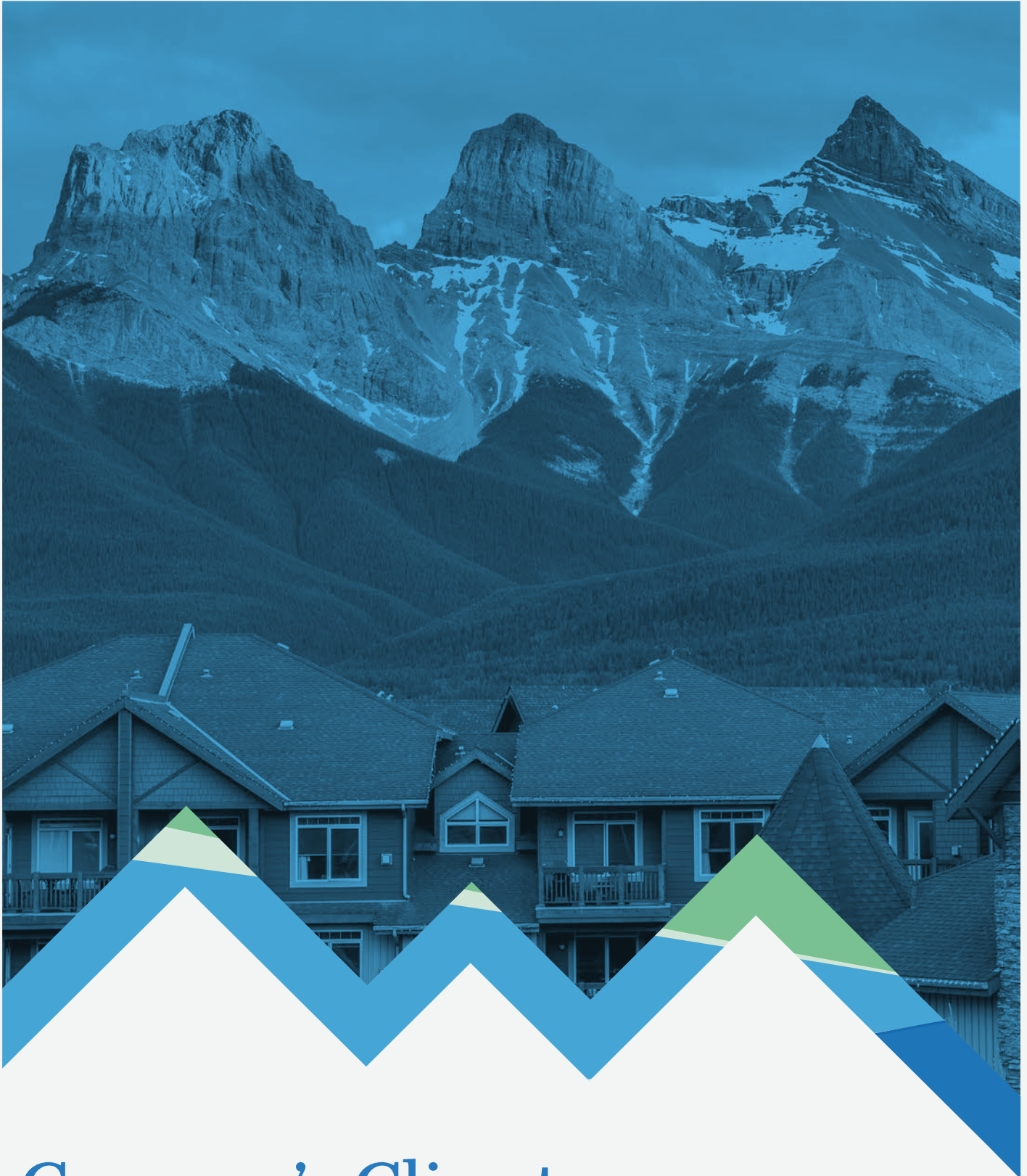
Each solution is designed to address Canmore's unique, local context. For instance, the ROAM program meets visitors' needs to travel between Canmore and Banff, while the composting programs take into account wildlife encounters in the area.

In 2013, Canmore experienced a catastrophic flooding when the seven mountain creeks surrounding the town overflowed due to torrential rain and rapid snow melt, causing extensive damages. This event prompted the Town to begin to consider climate impacts in its planning, in order to strengthen its adaptation strategies and capabilities. The Town's Climate Change Adaptation Background Report and Resilience Plan, published in September 2016, identified priority climate risks facing Canmore over the next several decades: forest fires, Bow River flooding, creek flooding, localized flooding due to an overwhelmed stormwater system, extreme winds, heavy snowfall events, and freeze-thaw cycles. The plan also outlined three opportunities for action planning that Canmore could take: an increase in summer season recreational opportunities, an extended construction season, and an increase in winter tourism competitive advantage.

Wildfires and extreme heat are increasing concerns, and in April 2023, the Town released its report *Adapting to the Risks of Extreme Heat and Wildfire Smoke in Canmore*. This report reviews the risks to the community from extreme heat and wildfire smoke, as well as guidance on developing emergency response plans for heat and smoke, and recommendations to ensure long-term preparedness.

In October 2019, the Town officially declared **a state of climate emergency**, the second municipality in Alberta to do so after Edmonton. The declaration reaffirms Canmore's commitment to reduce its carbon footprint and waste generation.





Canmore's Climate Emergency Action Plan

How the CEAP Was Developed

Canmore's CEAP was developed using a systematic approach that integrates technical modelling with a comprehensive engagement process, as illustrated in Figure 1. The interaction between these two processes ensures the plan is achievable and evidence-based while being rooted in the local context and responsive to community concerns.

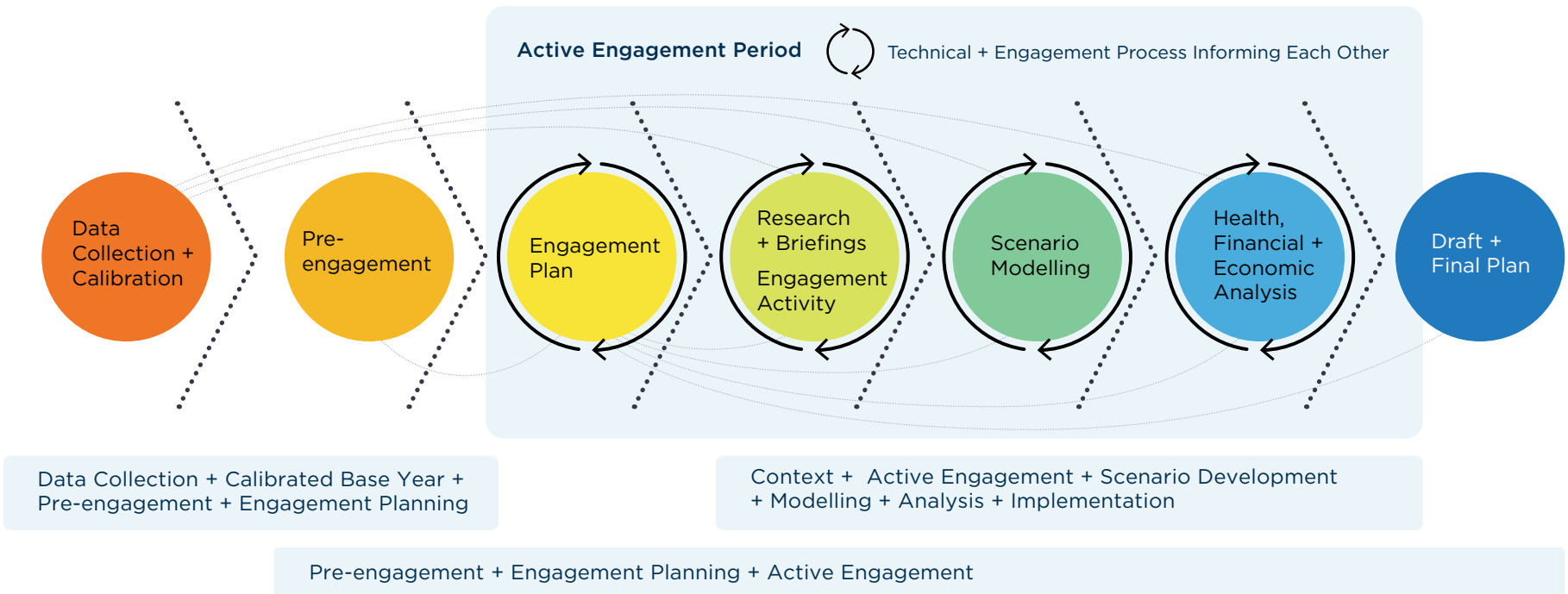


Figure 1. The process for developing the Town of Canmore's CEAP.

Energy and Emissions Modelling

“Reduce, Switch, Produce, and Offset, and Sequester” is a simple mantra to follow in energy and emissions planning (Figure 2, next page). This framework is adapted from similar approaches, such as Reduce-Reuse-Recycle (from the waste sector) and Avoid-Shift-Improve (from the transportation sector), and provides guidance on an overall approach to community energy and emissions planning.

To start, prioritizing reductions in energy consumption will reduce required investments in renewable energy and result in energy cost savings. Maximizing energy consumption reductions and energy efficiency opportunities lowers total energy costs and per-unit energy costs by reducing the overall build-out of the electricity system, which is logistically complex and capital-intensive.

The second and third steps are to switch to locally produced renewable electricity, which will maximize local economic benefits and the resilience of the electricity system. The final step is to offset and sequester any remaining emissions to reach net zero.

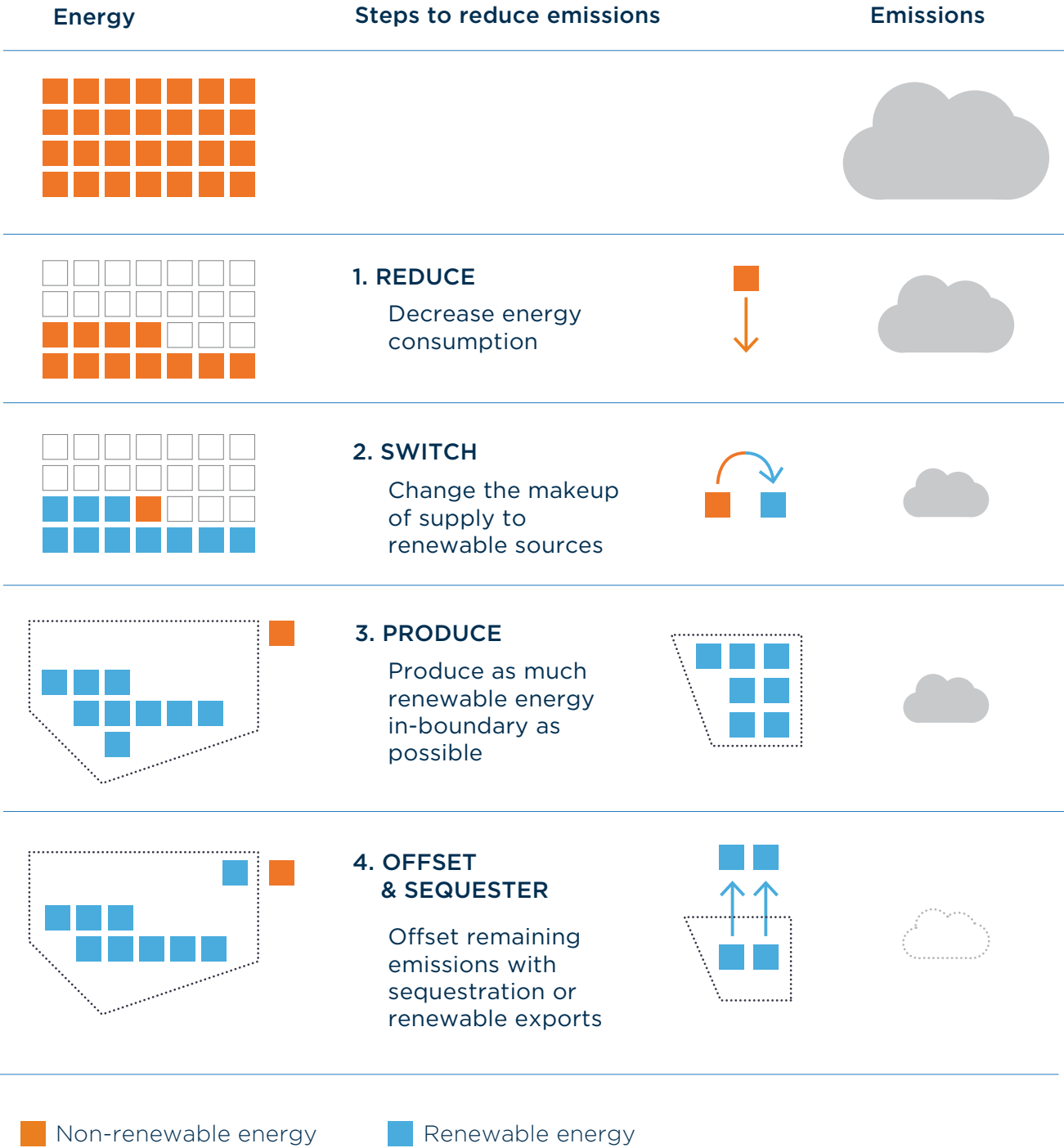


Figure 2. A systematic approach to reducing GHG emissions.

Climate Adaptation Modelling

Understanding how to adapt to climate change requires assessing how climate change is expected to affect environmental hazards over time, what the potential impacts of those changes are, and how prepared a community is to handle and recover from emergencies.

Climate parameters like overall trends in temperature and precipitation, and changes to the number of very hot and very cold days, can be linked with climate hazards like flooding, wildfires, and heatwaves. Translating those hazards into risk requires an assessment of the threat likelihood, the vulnerability of a community to the hazard, and the potential consequences of that hazard.



Figure 3. Conceptual formula of risk.

Once the priority climate hazards are identified, an assessment of data availability and the geographic and temporal variability of the hazard is used to develop a modelling methodology. The same spatial and temporal model used in the energy and emissions tracking is then applied to assess the impacts of climate hazards on people, places, and spaces in Canmore both in the present day and in 2070.

Identifying sources of damages, injury, illness, death, and other vulnerabilities leads to the development of a suite of adaptation actions that work together to protect Canmore and the community from climate change, and ensure that everyone is prepared for emergency events and the changing environment.

Engagement Activities

The engagement approach for this plan has been a comprehensive and inclusive process, crucial for developing effective and supported actions. This approach has involved multiple interested parties (e.g., stakeholders), ensuring diverse perspectives, particularly focussing on an equity perspective. Engagement sessions were not only designed for the broader community but also tailored to cater to the unique needs and insights of businesses and the tourism sector.

The drafting of the plan's actions was informed by detailed modelling and incorporates best practices from North American municipalities, contributions from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the latest scientific data. The plan also builds upon the Town's previous climate plans and experiences in implementation, harnessing lessons learned from past initiatives.

The engagement process over the past year was extensive and multi-faceted, shaping the direction and details of the plan. This process included:

- Two online town halls, providing a platform for widespread community involvement and feedback;
- Equity-focused workshops and community focus group sessions, ensuring diverse perspectives and addressing equity issues in climate action;
- Sessions specifically dedicated to the Bow Valley Builders and Developers Association (BOWDA) members, the business sector, and the tourism sector, recognizing the crucial role of these stakeholders;
- A public survey that was open for an entire month, allowing ample time for a broad section of the community to contribute their views;
- Eight in-person "pop-up" engagement sessions led by the Biosphere, facilitating direct interaction and feedback from community members;
- Interviews and engagement sessions with town staff, alongside discussions with subject matter experts, ensuring the plan is grounded in both local knowledge and expert insights; and
- Community partner and staff engagement in drafting the action items, further enriching the plan with varied perspectives.

The overall approach to engagement was comprehensive emphasizing pre-engagement (i.e., engaging on how to design the engagement for this plan), robust scientific grounding, and a commitment to learning from successful models. The plan aimed to build on past successes while being open to new ideas and strategies. Priority was placed on ensuring equity, inclusivity, and accessibility in all engagement activities, with transparency and community building as central themes. This approach welcomed feedback and was adaptable, ensuring the plan remained dynamic and responsive to community needs.

It is important to note that as the CEAP progresses into the implementation phase, extending to 2050, ongoing and substantive engagement will remain a critical component. The implementation phase will continue to involve all interested and engaged parties, maintaining the emphasis on inclusive participation. This phase will offer additional opportunities for sectors like businesses, alongside other community groups, to actively contribute and collaborate in the action plan's execution. The plan's long-term success depends on this continued engagement, ensuring the actions and strategies evolve to meet emerging challenges and opportunities in the journey toward a sustainable, resilient future for Canmore.

Mitigation and Adaptation Working Together

Mitigating and adapting to climate change are two interconnected approaches that are crucial for addressing the challenges posed by a changing climate. While they have distinct goals and strategies, their combined efforts are needed to ensure the long-term sustainability of ecosystems, economies, and societies.

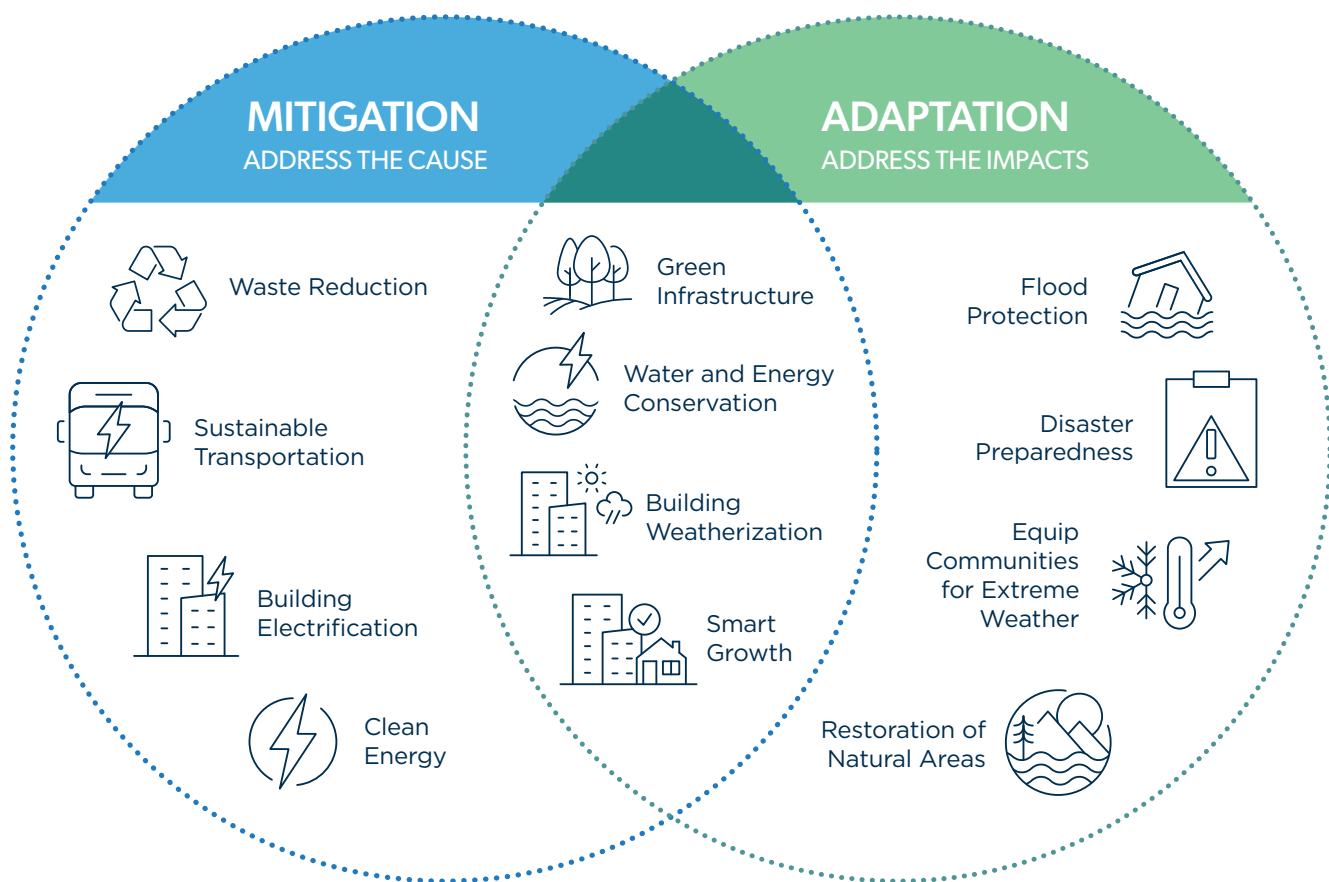


Figure 4. Climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Addressing climate adaptation and mitigation simultaneously allows for efficiencies and co-benefits to be maximized, and prevents us from taking adaptive or mitigation actions that result in a co-harm to the other. These benefits include:

1. Identifying actions where adaptation and mitigation can work together to enhance the benefits, resulting in comprehensive benefits to the community.
2. Identifying and avoiding potential co-harms. For example, adaptation planning might identify the need for supplemental electricity generation, but mitigation planning shows that back-up diesel generators work against overall climate action.
3. Avoiding being locked in to detrimental long-term choices, by implementing adaptation measures to protect and secure current infrastructure, while simultaneously working to reduce the global impacts of climate change. This reduces the need for the most expensive upgrades and adaptation measures. For example, without consideration of future flow rates and volumes, culverts due for replacement might not be correctly sized to accommodate climate change, increasing the likelihood of localized flooding.
4. Maximizing the economic benefits through job creation, efficient planning, and enhanced energy security.
5. Aligning policies and political energy, and avoiding duplication of efforts, as much as possible. Climate plans, funding programs, and implementation strategies for both mitigation and adaptation can be developed together, maximizing efficiency and allowing the town to shift more quickly to implementing climate plans.

What Is Climate Change Mitigation Versus Climate Change Adaptation?

Mitigation focuses on taking action to reduce human-caused GHG emissions to limit changes in the climate.

Adaptation focuses on adjusting infrastructure and practices to decrease risk and build resilience to expected changes in the climate.

Addressing both mitigation and adaptation recognizes that emissions need to be reduced to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change, but also that some changes are already underway and will be unavoidable, so we must prepare and adapt to minimize the impact of those changes.

Scopes of Emissions

Scopes of emissions typically refers to the different categories or levels of emissions associated with various activities or processes, especially in the context of environmental impact assessment, carbon footprint analysis, or sustainability reporting. These scopes help us understand and categorize emissions for better management and mitigation strategies. The most commonly referred to scopes of emissions are defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, which is widely used for assessing GHG emissions (Figure 5).²

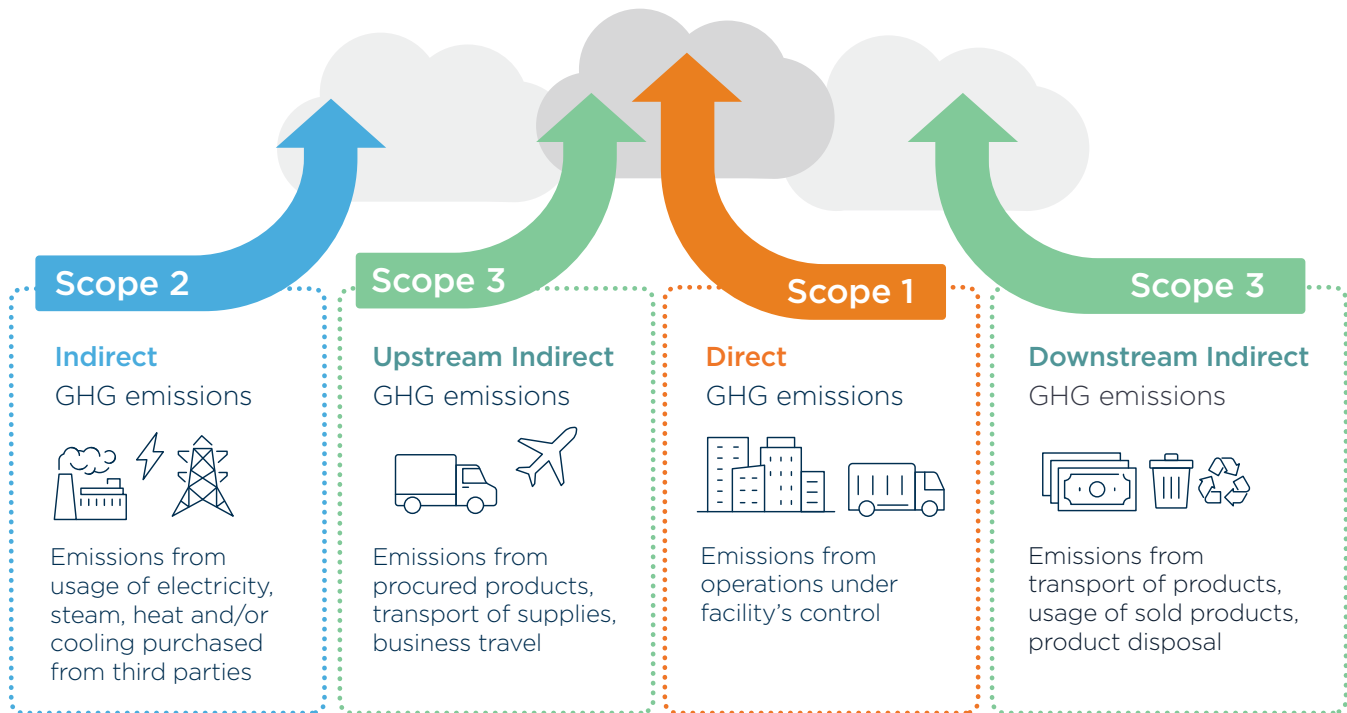


Figure 5. Emission scopes as defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

Scope 1 Emissions: These are the GHGs that come directly from sources we own or control (e.g., exhaust from our cars, heating in our buildings).

Scope 2 Emissions: These emissions come from the energy we use (e.g., electricity). Even though we don't produce this energy ourselves, we're responsible for the emissions because we use the energy.

Scope 3 Emissions: This category includes all other emissions that are a result of our activities, but come from sources we don't own or control directly (e.g., emissions from making a product that we buy).

² Fong, W. et al., 2019. Global protocol for community-scale greenhouse gas emission inventories: An Accounting and Reporting Standard for Cities Version 1.1. Greenhouse Gas Protocol.





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Mitigating the Source: Town of Canmore Community Emissions

Inventory

To provide guidance on what actions and what scale of action would be needed to reach net-zero emissions in Canmore, an understanding of the local context was developed. This context includes current energy use and emissions, and plausible projections for energy use and emissions based on current practices, policies, and demographic projections.

Canmore consumed 6,343 megajoules (MJs) of energy in 2022 to fuel vehicles; heat space and water; operate appliances, equipment, and machinery inside all types of buildings; and provide municipal services like water and waste management (Figures 6 and 7, next page). These processes, combined with landfill emissions, generated 461 ktCO₂e of GHG emissions. Two-thirds of these GHG emissions was from the transportation sector, where gasoline and diesel are used to power vehicles that move people and goods. Fugitive emissions are emissions associated with leaks in natural gas pipes, storage tanks, and appliances.

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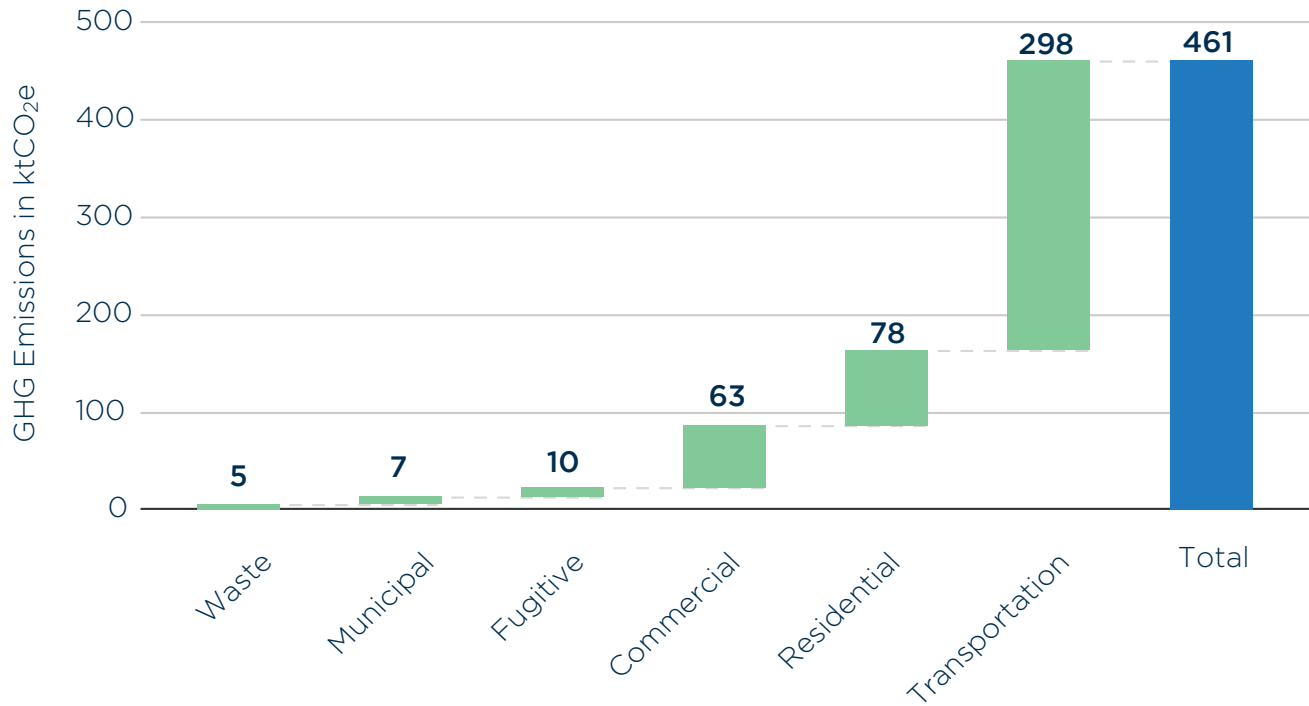


Figure 6. GHG emissions by sector in baseline year 2022.

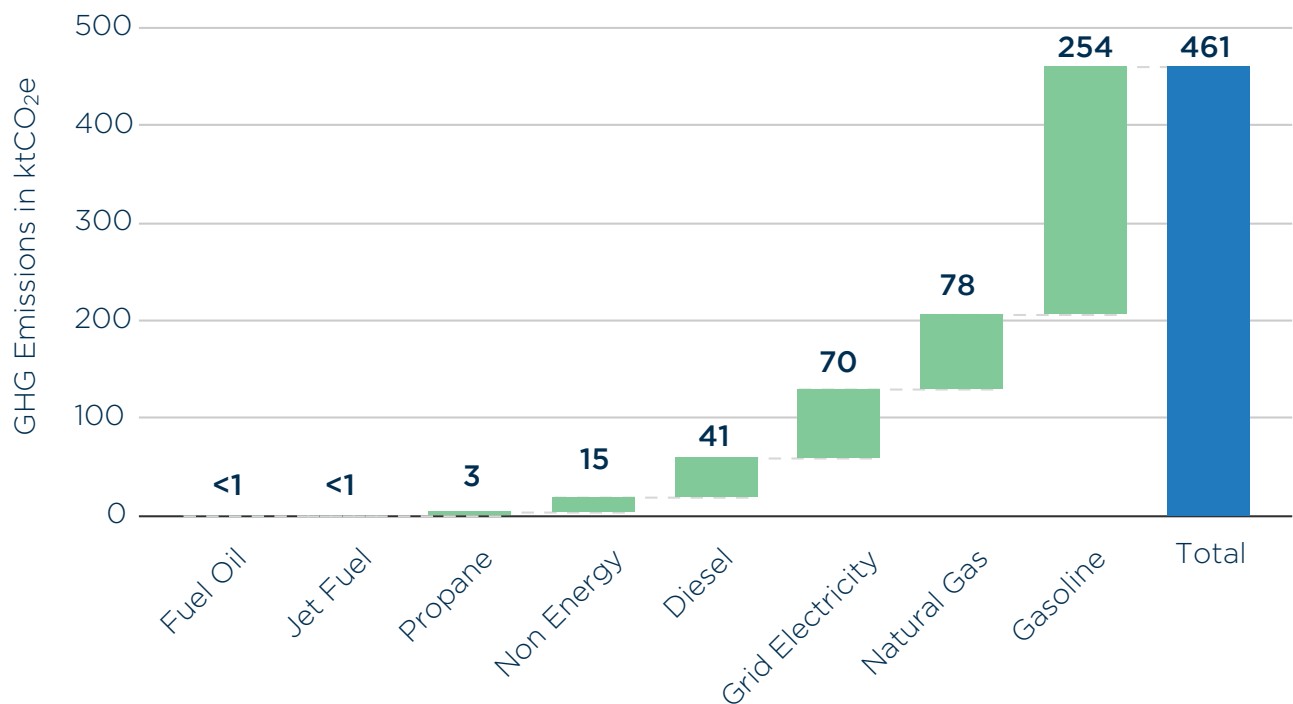


Figure 7. GHG emissions by fuel type in baseline year 2022.³

³ Non-energy emissions refer to GHG emissions released from landfills, wastewater treatment, or other non-energy sources.

Based on Canmore's 2022 permanent population, this translates to 27.8 tCO₂e generated per person, which is higher than the latest reported national GHG emissions per capita—17.5 tCO₂e generated per person in 2021.⁴

A Future Town of Canmore Without Further Climate Action

Two potential scenarios show the emissions pathway for Canmore where no future climate action is implemented (Figure 8, next page). The first scenario, the business-as-usual (BAU) scenario, extrapolates current demographic patterns into the future if no additional plans, policies, programs, and projects are implemented. In this case, energy sources and consumption trends, transportation modes and patterns, and land-use plans are held constant.

The second scenario is the business-as-planned (BAP) scenario, which explores a pathway with the same demographic and economic trends, but also accounts for current plans, policies, legislation, and regulations at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels. This scenario excludes pledges, promises, or ideas that have not yet been endorsed, passed through legislation, or budgeted for with committed capital and/or operational funding.

Figure 8 shows a wedge diagram that compares the BAU and BAP scenario results for Canmore. The top line represents the BAU scenario pathway. Each coloured wedge or section represents the emissions reduction resulting from each BAP action. Collectively, these measures enable the BAP scenario pathway. The grey area represents the residual GHG emissions.

Following the growth of a coloured wedge from left to right shows that initially, each measure eliminates only a small amount of emissions. However, the measures build on each other, and their impacts increase over time. Each measure is more impactful 15 years into implementing the CEAP than it was at the beginning. This shows how important it is for Canmore to begin these actions as soon possible and to avoid delays throughout the CEAP.

⁴ Government of Canada (2023). Greenhouse gas sources and sinks in Canada: executive summary 2023. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/greenhouse-gas-emissions/sources-sinks-executive-summary-2023.html>

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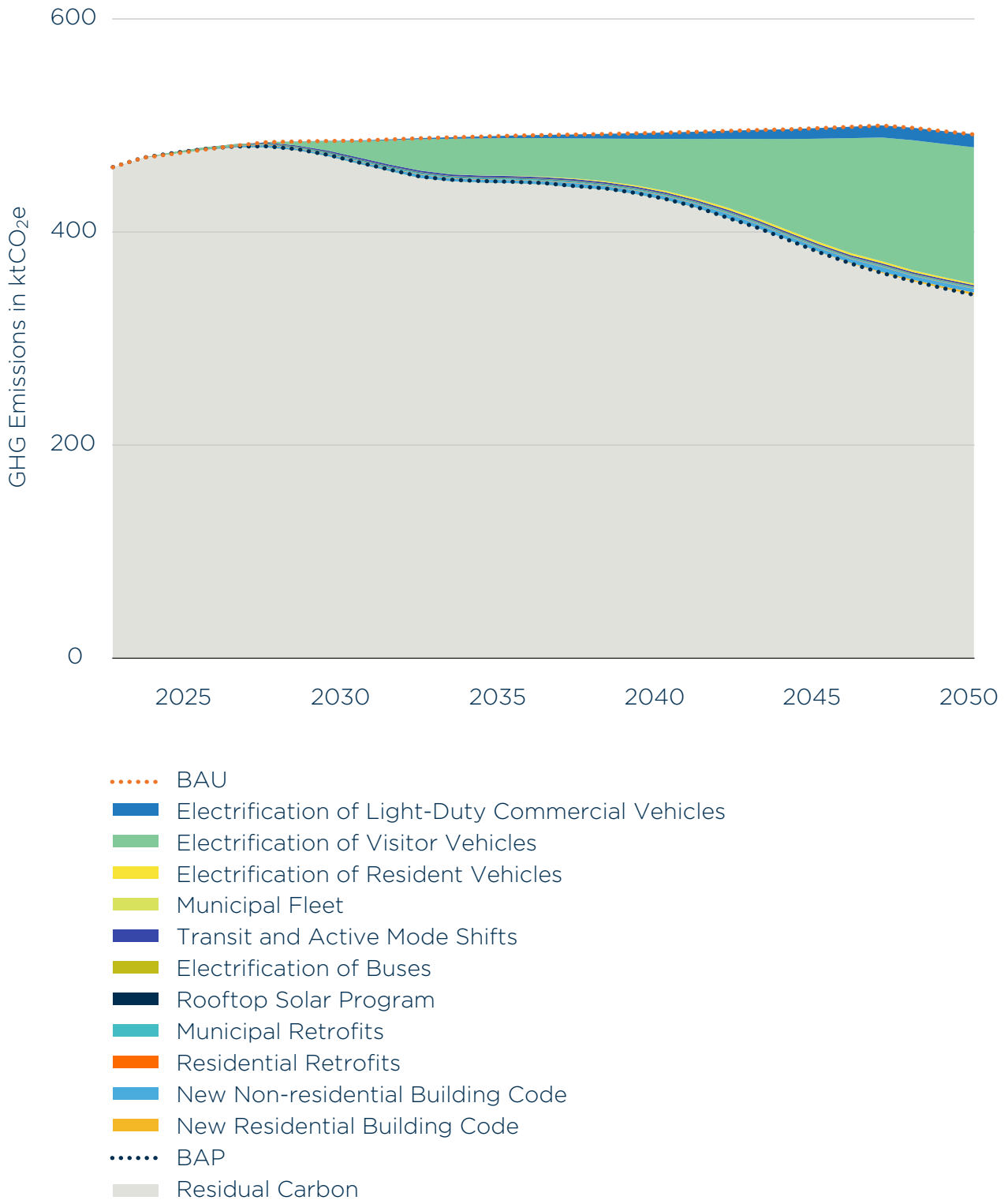


Figure 8. Emissions reduction impact of each action in the BAU and BAP scenarios, 2022-2050.

The BAU and BAP modelling assumptions are described in Table 1.

Table 1. BAU and BAP Modelling Assumptions.

Strategy	BAU Scenario	BAP Scenario	Impact
Higher-performance new buildings	No change in building performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New residential and non-residential buildings are constructed to Tier 1 of the 2020 National Building and Energy Codes 	Avoided/reduced energy use
Retrofit existing buildings	No retrofits take place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipal buildings are retrofitted to become 50% more efficient by 2030 20 homes are retrofitted by 2026 under CEIP and low-income programs 	Avoided/reduced energy use
Rooftop solar	12.8 MW rooftop solar installed by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13.6 MW rooftop solar power installed by 2030 with additional Town of Canmore incentive program 	Fuel switching
Vehicle electrification	No change in vehicle fuel use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 electric bus by 2024 All new light-duty vehicles are electric by 2035 under federal mandate 	Fuel switching
Mode shift to transit and active transportation	No change in transportation mode share	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transit and active transportation networks are expanded based on Canmore's Integrated Transportation Plan, resulting in higher shares of people walking, biking, and riding the bus 	Avoided energy use

A Business-As-Usual (BAU) Scenario Explained

A business-as-usual (BAU) scenario for carbon emissions reductions reflects a continuation of current consumption and supply trends for Canmore with no policy interventions and minimal technological progress. This scenario is mostly hypothetical and serves as a comparison for the effectiveness of the BAP scenario.

A Business-As-Planned (BAP) Scenario Explained

A business-as-planned (BAP) scenario for carbon emissions reductions projects Canmore's expected emissions levels if the Town continues with current policies and practices, with no additional policy or climate action intervention. This scenario serves as a benchmark, or starting point, against which Canmore can measure the effectiveness of its emissions reduction efforts. It includes projections for energy consumption, emissions from transportation, emissions from industrial processes, and other sources of carbon emissions.

The projections are based on locally available data including utility use records, transportation data, demographic data, and forecasts for population and employment changes. Policy implications at the local, provincial, and federal level are also considered.

This scenario essentially describes the size of the emissions reduction challenge the town faces and can be used to set emissions reduction targets and track progress toward achieving them. It can also be used as a way to communicate the town's reduction strategy to interested and affected parties (stakeholders) and the general public.

In the BAU scenario, GHG emissions grow by 8% from 2022 to 2047, with a slight downward trend in the last three years. This projection reflects the interplay between several factors: the growing population trends and warming climate trends combined with improved equipment and vehicle efficiencies.

What the business-as-planned (BAP) scenario showed is that GHG emissions were likely to decrease by 26% (Figure 9, next page) by 2050, with current policy that does not include a climate emergency action plan. This means without an ambitious climate action plan, emissions are not reduced to a low-carbon state. To eliminate as many GHG emissions as possible by 2050, comprehensive changes across all sectors are needed. The challenge is daunting but not impossible.

Emissions Targets

Setting emissions reductions targets allows the Town and the community to identify a clear goal and track progress toward achieving it. To align with the Government of Canada's Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act, the Town has set a target of net-zero GHG emissions by 2050.

Canada has an interim target of reducing emissions by 40%–45% below 2005 levels by 2030. This target aligns with Canada's Paris Agreement commitments. As Canmore does not have a comparable emissions inventory for 2005, establishing a firm target to align with federal commitments is challenging. Canmore has grown between 2005 and 2022, our modelling base year, but emissions from grid electricity, gas-powered vehicles, and other sources have reduced through updates to fuel sources and emissions regulations. The modelled target for 2030 in this study is 350 ktCO₂e. This represents a 25% decrease in emissions from 2022, and is likely close to a 40%–45% decrease from 2005 emissions, based on those changes.

Figure 9 shows the BAU and BAP scenarios, as well as the 2030 and 2050 GHG targets for Canmore. Included in this graph is the Low Carbon Scenario, which is a pathway for Canmore to achieve its GHG targets. This scenario is explored in more detail further in this document.

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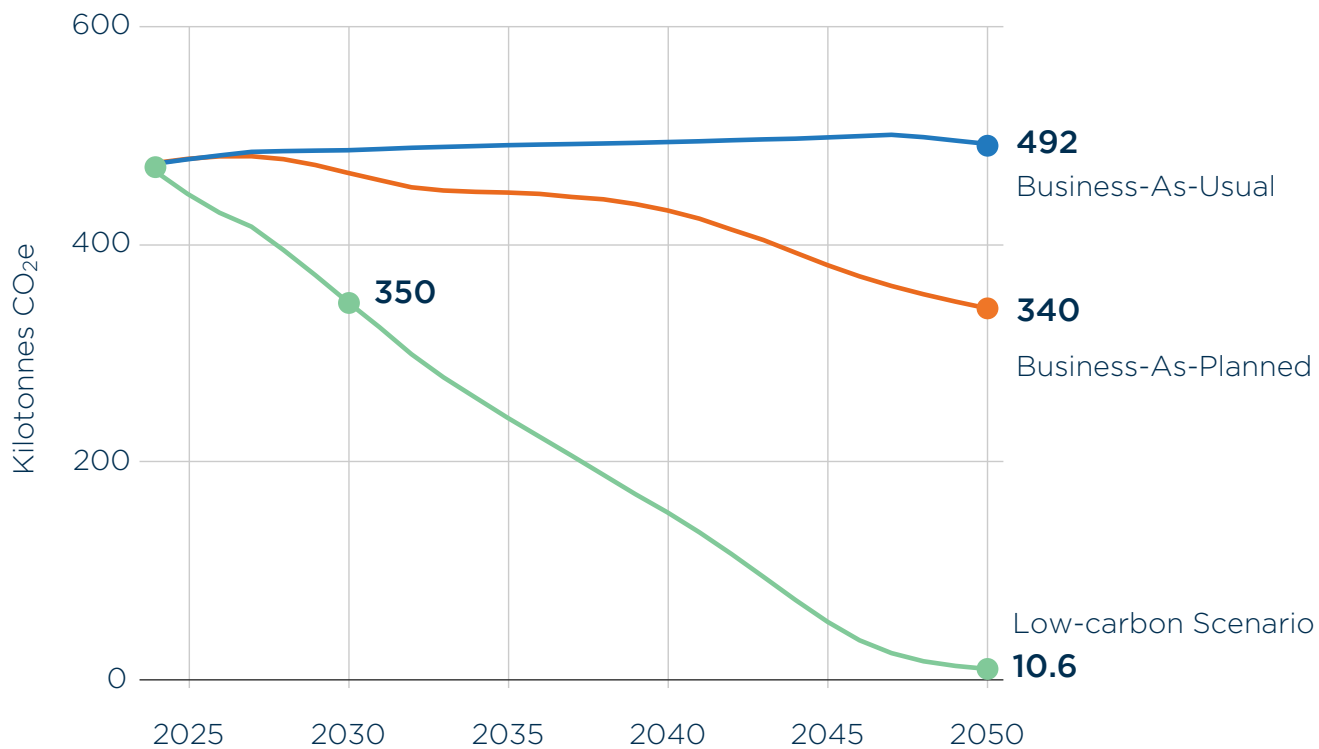


Figure 9. GHG emissions projections for BAU, BAP, and low-carbon scenarios.

Adapting to Climate Change: Climate Hazards and Projections

Climate Hazards

Canmore will be getting **warmer** and **wetter**, with **wilder** weather. Both the mean and maximum annual temperatures are increasing. Minimum temperatures will increase throughout the century, and Canmore can expect to see multiple days above 30°C annually.

The total annual precipitation will also increase, but with less precipitation in the form of snow, and more in the form of rain, especially in the spring and fall. The number of frost-free days will increase dramatically. The combination of warmer weather and less predictable precipitation will have impacts on the snowpack and glaciers in the mountains around Canmore, with effects on flooding, ecosystem health, and freshwater supply.



Figure 10. Climate impacts in Canmore.

Linking climate change with changes in hazards requires a multi-faceted analysis of the links between climate indicators and the physical assets of Canmore, including both the built environment and the natural environment. Figure 11 (next page) shows the interrelated nature of these relationships, linking climate indicators to hazards.

Translating climate change trends to hazards allows for a deeper understanding of how the warmer and wetter weather will shape the seasons, ecosystems, and risks to people, places, and spaces in Canmore.

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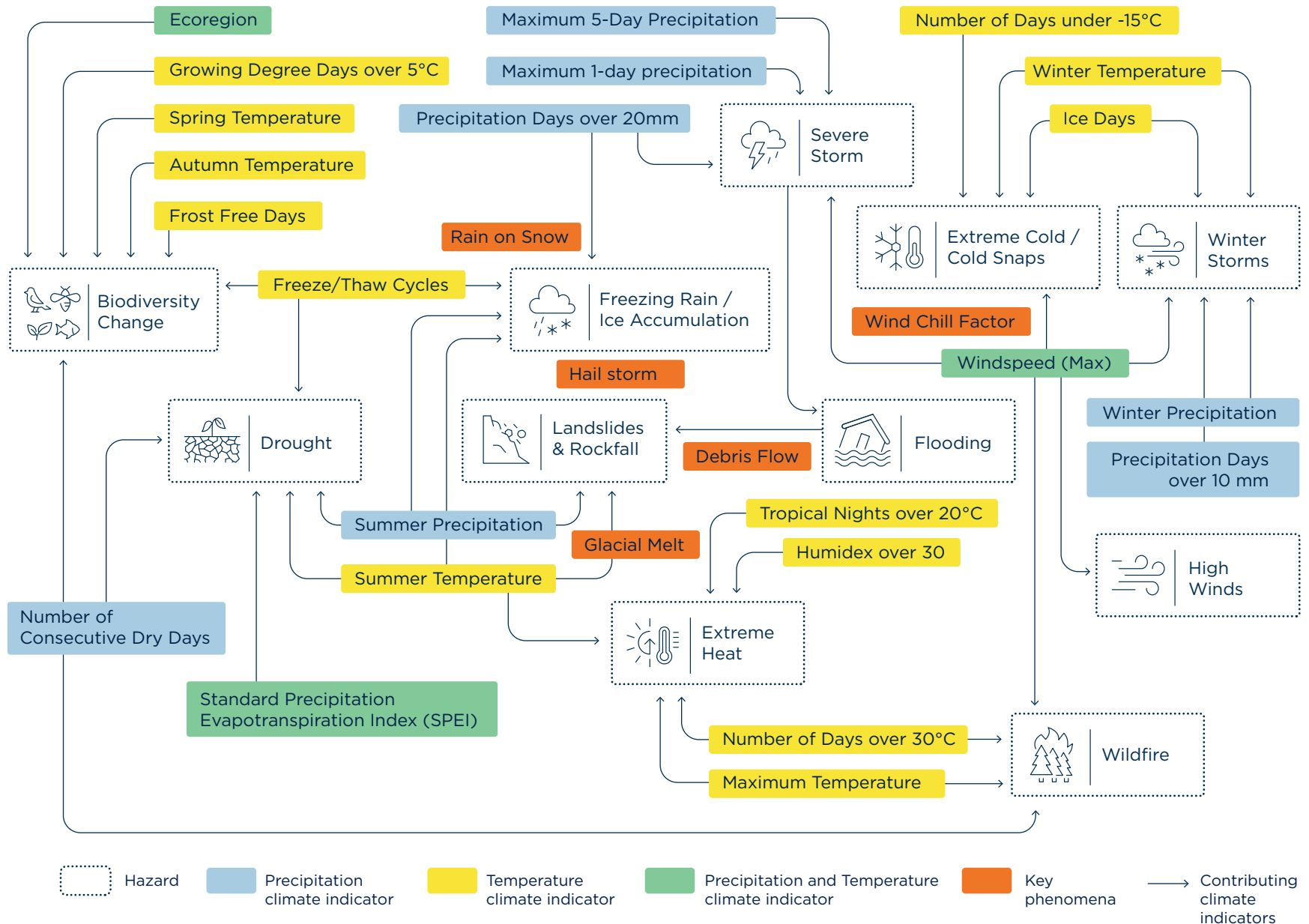


Figure 11. Relationships between climate indicators and hazards affecting Canmore.

Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

Assessing the vulnerability and consequences of climate hazards, as well as the threat each hazard poses, allows us to develop a risk score for each hazard. These risk scores range from 0 to 5, where 0 is no risk, and 5 is a very high risk. These risk scores consider how well Canmore can adapt to a hazard, the spatial impact of the hazard, how quickly the community can recover, long-term impacts, and direct and indirect damages to buildings, infrastructure, and other assets.

To understand the risk from climate hazards, three components are assessed:

- **The hazard threat:** What is the extent of the threat, how frequently does it occur, and how will it change over time?
- **The vulnerability:** What is the adaptive capacity of the system, and what is the sensitivity and susceptibility of the system to the hazard?
- **The consequence:** What are the direct and indirect consequences of the hazard to the system?

The risk score is the result of all three components combined. Table 2 (next page) shows the score for each of these components, and Annex 5 provides more details.

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Table 2. Risk assessment scores for climate hazards in Canmore.

Rank	Hazard	Hazard Threat	Vulnerability	Consequence	Risk
1	Ecoregion Changes	2.2	0.7	2.5	1.67
2	Wildfire	2.1	0.9	4.5	3.90
3	Steep Creeks	1.5	0.7	4.0	2.93
4	Extreme Heat	1.3	0.4	2.0	0.80
5	Riverine Flooding	1.1	0.7	4.0	2.67
6	High Winds	1.0	0.3	1.5	0.50
7	Freezing Rain/ Ice Accumulation	0.9	0.2	1.5	0.30
8	Dry Weather Conditions/ Drought	0.8	0.4	1.5	0.60
9	Extreme Cold / Cold Snaps	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.27
10	Snow Accumulation	0.8	0.2	1.0	0.20

Risk	Insignificant 0.20 - 0.59	Minor 0.60 - 0.99	Moderate 1.00 - 1.99	High 2.00 - 3.99	Very High 4.00 - 5.00
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Summary of Climate Impacts

The following sections describe the impacts of the highest risk climate hazards in Canmore.



Ecoregion Changes

Ecoregion changes are shifts in the composition of species, or type of ecosystem or ecoregion, found in the area. The focus of this hazard is on invasive species and diseases, as well as stresses to the forest ecosystem. Canmore is located in a beautiful and diverse natural environment, and impacts to the ecosystems will affect the whole community. These impacts include:

- Increased stresses to forests, which can lead to an increased risk of fires, floods, and landslides;
- Loss of urban forest cover, and changes in the health of other ecosystems including lakes and streams;
- Increased presence of invasive species, including vectors of disease such as ticks and mosquitos;
- Spread of species like the mountain pine beetle; and
- Disruptions to tourism due to fires, reduced forest health, and increased vector-borne diseases.



Wildfire and Smoke

Wildfire is the unplanned spread of fire caused by natural events or human activity. Smoke from wildfires can affect locations far away from the actual fire. All of Canmore is at an elevated risk from wildfire (Figure 12, next page). Because the town is a valley, smoke can become trapped in the area, resulting in health problems and negative impacts to recreation and tourism. Wildfire and smoke impacts include:

- Damage to or destruction of homes, businesses, and other assets;
- Disruptions to transportation networks and the electricity grid;
- Stresses and injury to people from fire and smoke;
- Increased strain on emergency services;
- Unhealthy outdoor conditions; and
- Impacts on tourism from fire or smoke.

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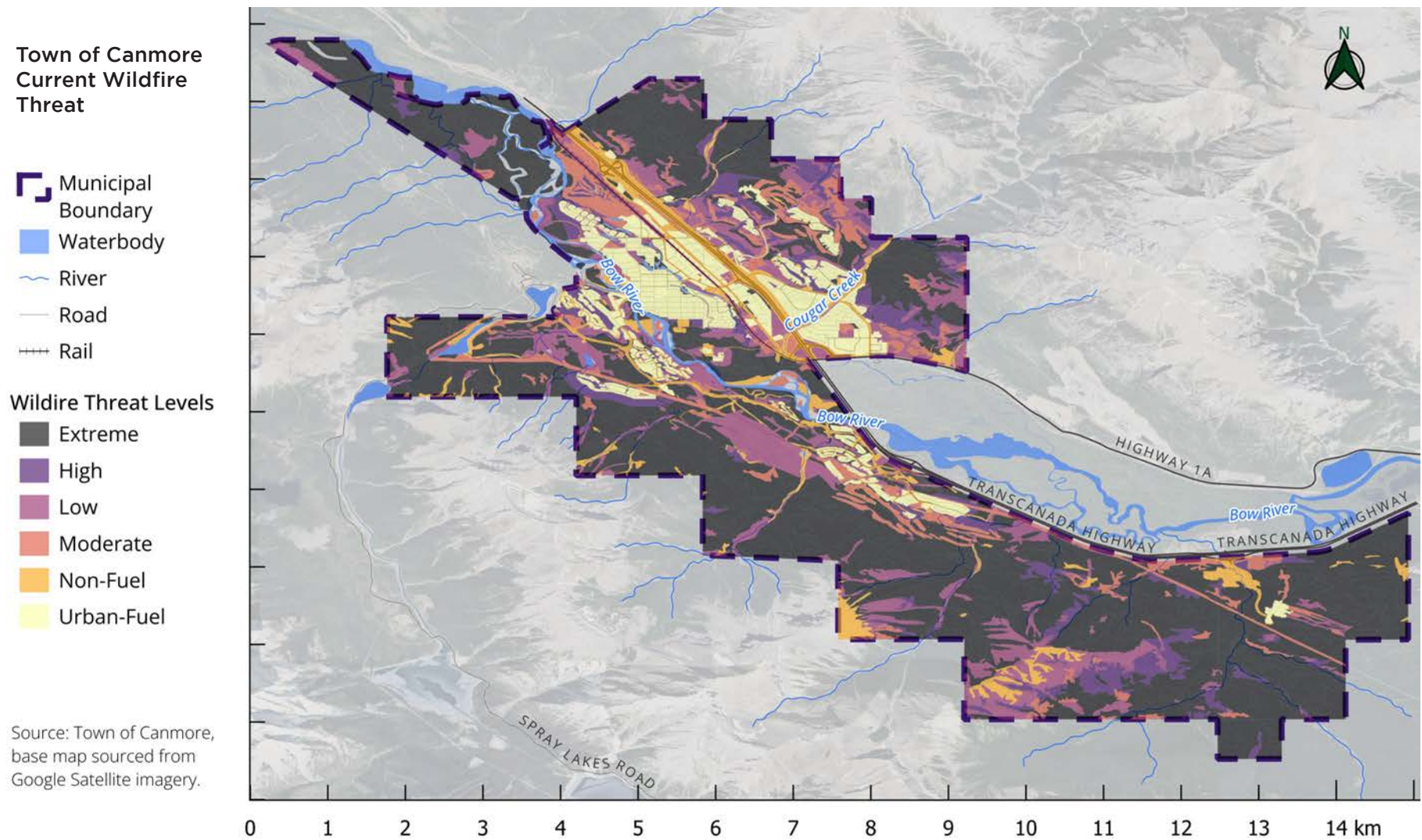


Figure 12. Wildfire threat levels for the present day for Canmore.⁵

⁵ Modified from: Walkinshaw, Stew, 2020. Wildfire Risk Assessment. Three Sisters Mountain Village. Montane Forest Management Ltd.



Steep Creek Flooding

Landslides and debris flows, also known as steep creek flooding, occur when large precipitation events in mountainous areas cause flooding and debris flows. These floods can be unpredictable and dangerous. In the past, they have caused extensive damage downstream, and continue to pose a significant risk to areas of Canmore within the flow paths of these creeks (Figure 13, next page). These impacts include:

- Damage to homes, businesses, and other infrastructure;
- Potential injury or death;
- Disruptions and evacuations from emergency events;
- Increased sedimentation in downstream water bodies; and
- Expensive and complicated clean-up and repairs.

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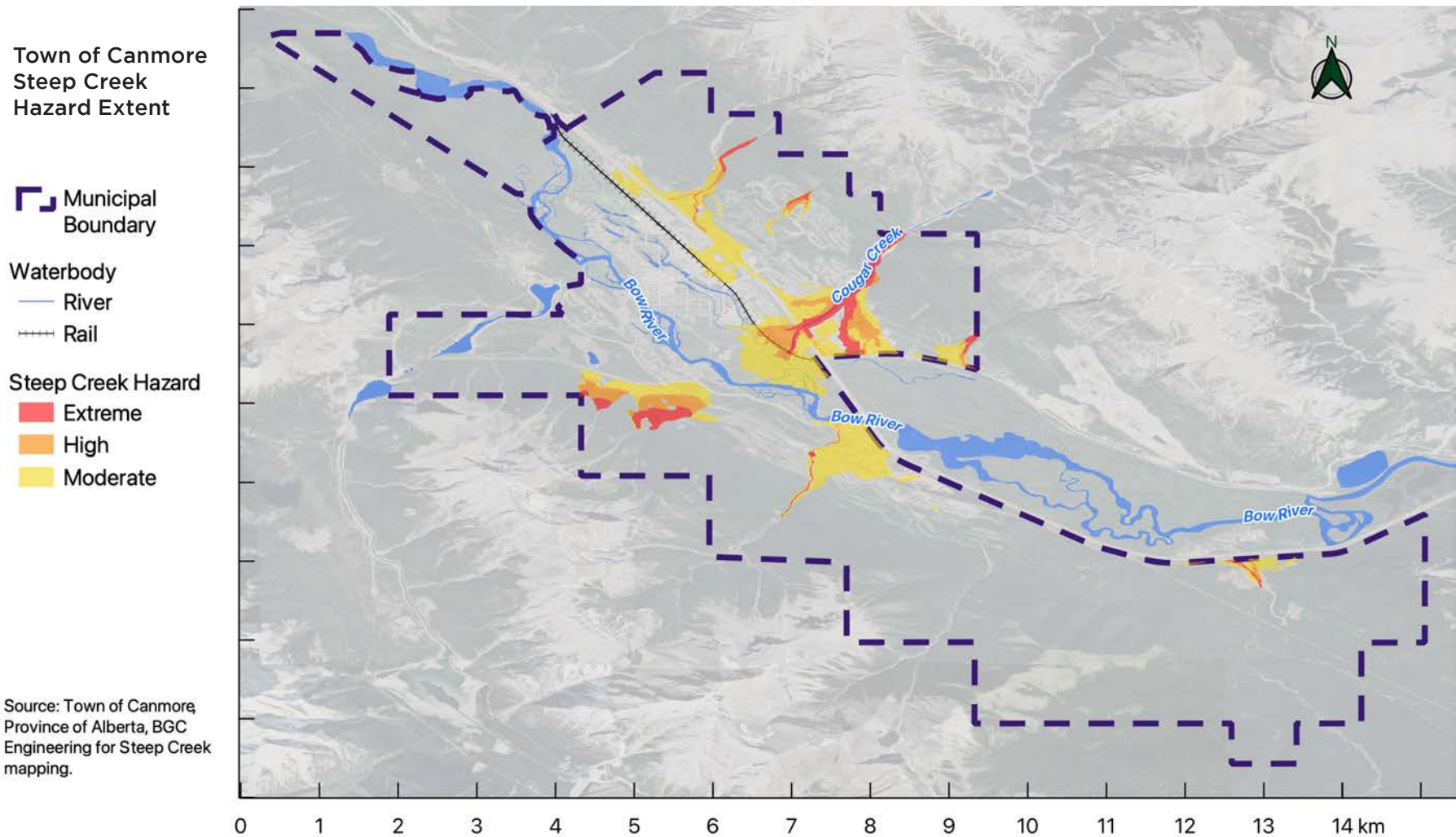
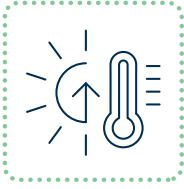


Figure 13. Extent of Steep Creek Hazard zones for the creeks included in the risk assessments completed between 2015 and 2018 by BGC Engineering, Ltd. Hazard level increases from yellow to red in severity, based on the steep creek risk assessment analysis.



Extreme Heat

Extreme heat is a period of high heat, specifically daily high temperatures above 30°C, and nighttime low temperatures above 14°C. For the purposes of this analysis, we looked specifically at the effect of such conditions as they relate to heat stress and the effect of periods of high heat on Canmore's residents.

Canmore is protected from the temperature extremes seen in other parts of the country, but it will still experience elevated temperatures relative to historic conditions. The nighttime temperatures of a 1-in-10 year heat event are shown in Figure 14 for the present day, and Figure 15 for 2070 (next pages). The increase in temperature across all of Canmore is evident and can cause the following impacts:

- Increased risk of heat-related illnesses and diseases;
- Increased need for space cooling/air conditioning;
- Increased energy demand for space cooling;
- Heat stress of vegetation and changes in ecosystems as the climate warms;
- Changes in water quality;
- Increased demands on health services, with stresses on health care workers and emergency services; and
- Increased need for cooling centres and other municipal supports.

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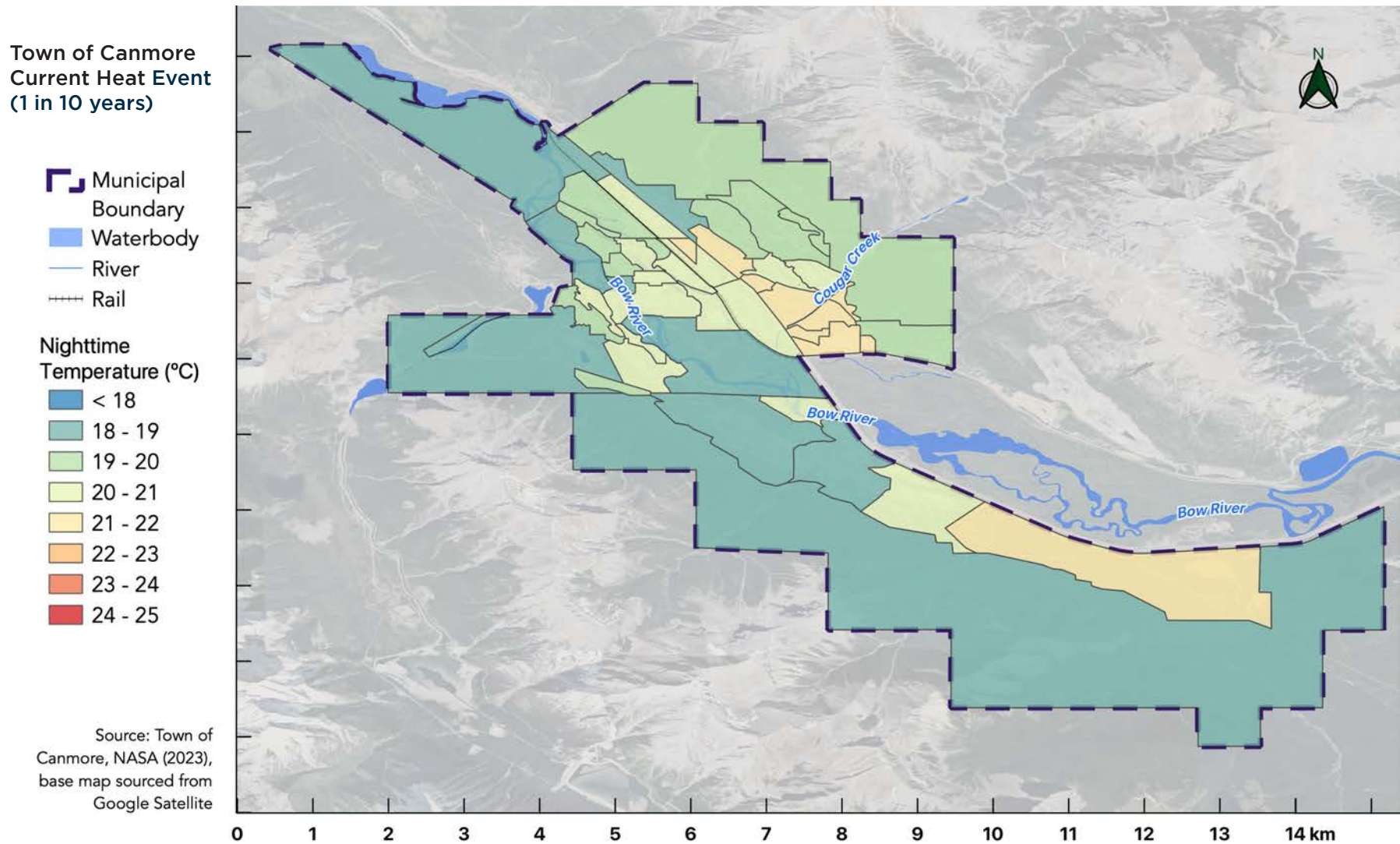


Figure 14. Estimated minimum nighttime temperatures across Canmore during a 10-year heat event in the present day.⁶

⁶ A 10-year heat event has a 1 in 10 chance of happening in any given year.

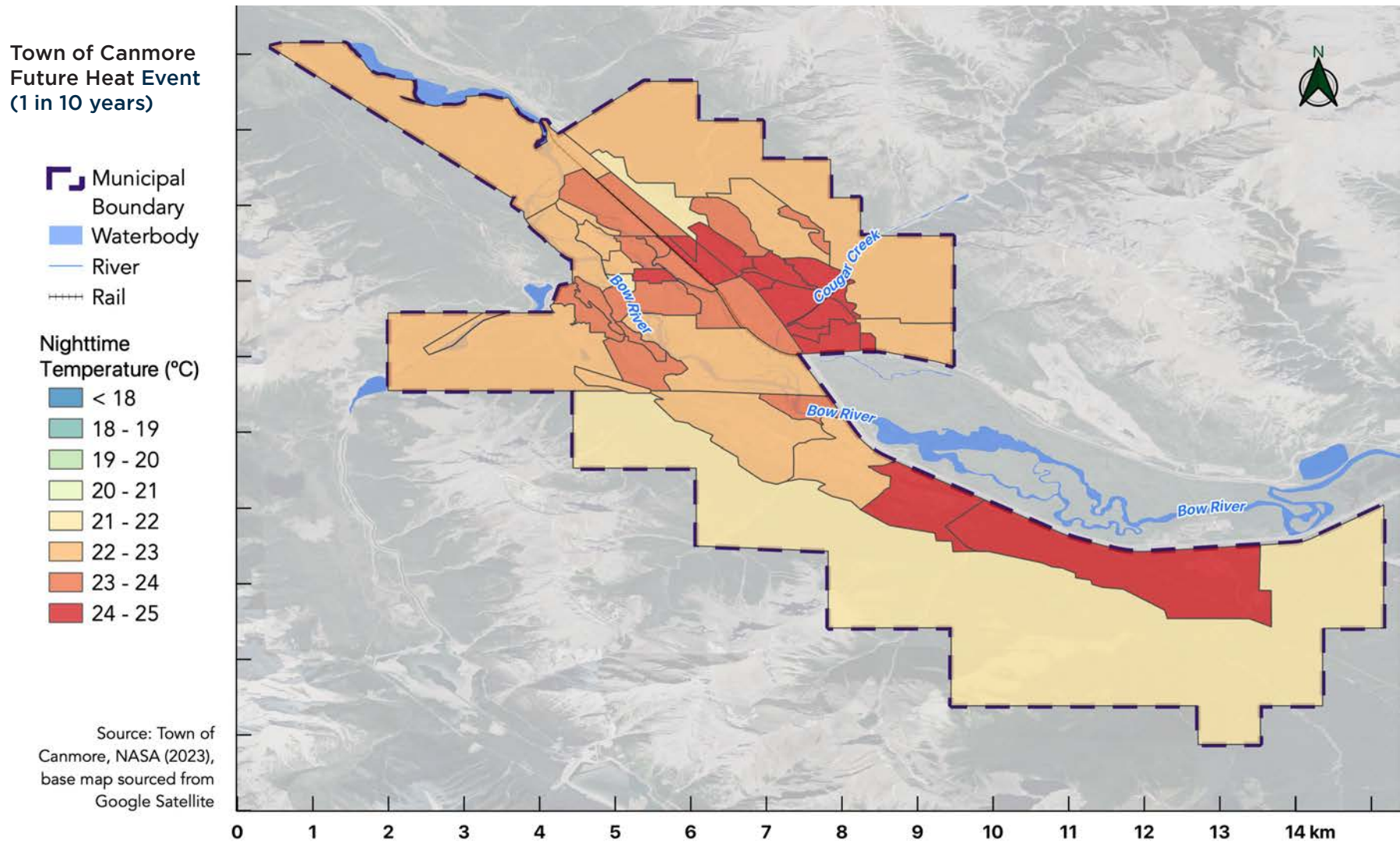


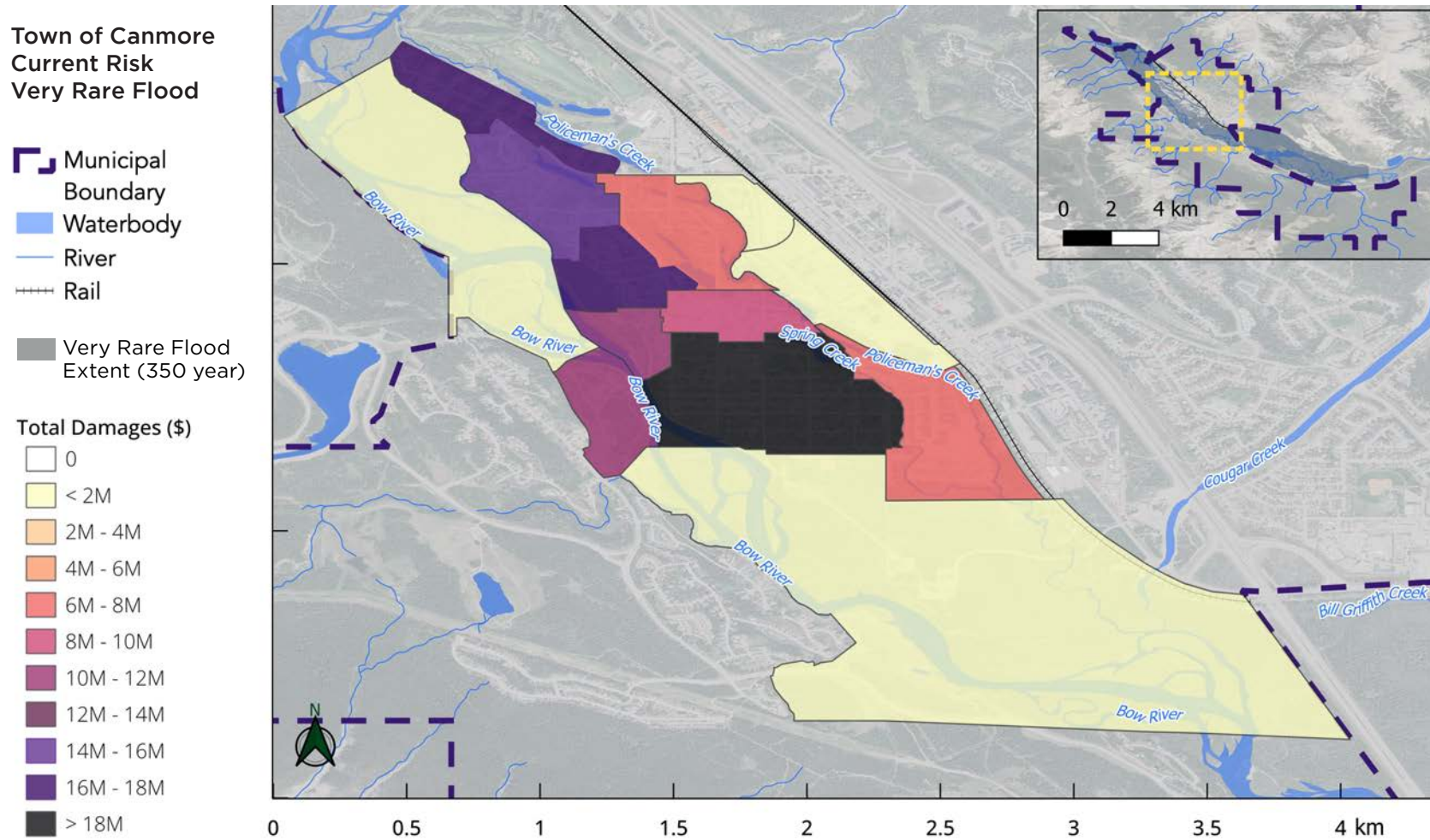
Figure 15. Estimated minimum nighttime temperatures across Canmore during a 10-year heat event in 2070, with the combined impacts of climate change and development.

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**Riverine Flooding**

Riverine flooding occurs when rivers or creeks overflow due to excessive rainfall over an extended period. The increase in total precipitation in the future, as well as the increase in volume of precipitation over short periods of time, increases the potential for riverine flooding into the future. Flooding occurs along the Bow River, affecting the central portions of Canmore. Figure 16 (next page) shows the potential annual damages to structures, contents, and disruptions from flooding both today and in 2070 for four flood return periods. Impacts can include:

- Damage to homes and businesses within the floodplain;
- Potential for flooding of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, which could disrupt essential services to Canmore and contaminate downstream areas;
- Disruptions from evacuations and repairs from flood damage; and
- Increased need for emergency services during flood events.



Source: Town of Canmore, extents from Government of Alberta Flood Mapping GIS Dataset, from Environmental Knowledge and Prediction Branch, Environment and Protected Areas. Base map sourced from Google Satellite imagery.

Disclaimer: Flood events are described by the “return interval”, the probability of a flood event of a particular threshold to occur. Flood frequencies are grouped by the likelihood of an event to occur during a lifetime (average lifespan of 85 years). A “nuisance flood” describes flood events that occur many times in a lifetime. “Frequent flood” events occur several times a lifetime. “Rare flood” events may occur once or twice a lifetime. “Very rare flood” events may occur in a lifetime.

Figure 16. Flood damages from a Very Rare (200-year+) flood in the present day

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Dry Weather Conditions/Drought

Extended warm periods can lead to droughts. Stresses to surface and subterranean water supplies threaten potable water availability. Increasing temperatures, as well as less predictable precipitation, pose a threat to water security for Canmore. Fresh water is supplied by upstream snow melt, glacial runoff, and precipitation. Changes in any of these elements affects both the quality and the quantity of water available for municipal use, and in natural systems. These impacts can include:

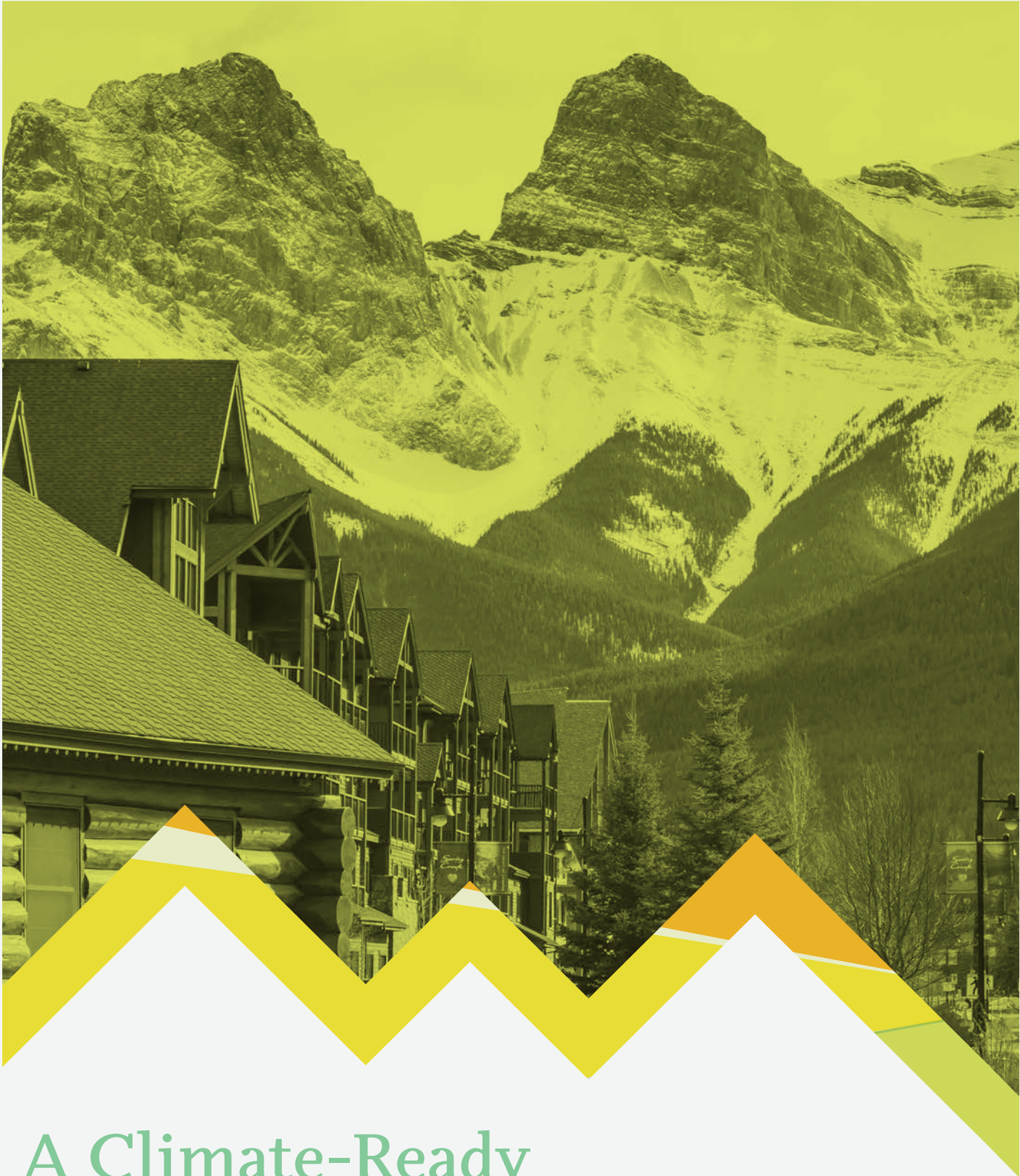
- Changes in water supply and storage;
- Changes in water temperature or condition can require changes to water treatment processes;
- Drinking water supply can be affected, with a higher probability for disruption to residential water supply and enforcement of water restrictions during dry periods; and
- Changes in water supply could result in water use restrictions in Canmore to mitigate drought conditions in downstream communities.



Other Hazards

High winds, freezing rain and ice accumulation, extreme cold, and snow accumulation were not assessed as the increased risk associated with these hazards is insignificant, especially as the climate warms. These are hazards for which Canmore is prepared, and have historically been addressed, so do not require additional consideration beyond the current levels.





A Climate-Ready Future for Canmore

The Pathway to a Net-Zero Town of Canmore

Carbon neutrality is achieved when decarbonization of the economy reduces carbon emissions to as close to zero as possible. Decarbonization occurs through energy-use avoidance, energy efficiency, and the replacement of fossil fuels with renewable energy technologies and energy systems. Any remaining human-driven emissions are balanced out by an equivalent amount of carbon being removed from the atmosphere. Carbon removal or sequestration can be achieved by restoring or enhancing natural lands and soils, or through direct air capture and storage technology.

Deep reductions in GHG emissions are required to meet Canmore's 2030 and 2050 emissions targets. A set of low-carbon actions were identified for Canmore based on established best practices and existing, readily available technologies. These actions were refined to fit the specific context of Canmore through an extensive community engagement process, ensuring their suitability and effectiveness for addressing local needs and challenges.

Many actions exhibit synergistic effects, amplifying one another's efficacy. These actions can be grouped into four 'Big Moves' that together will limit the amount of energy Canmore needs and enable it to meet energy demand with clean energy. The following section lists key modelled and non-modelled actions for each Big Move; Annex 2 includes a full list of modelled actions.

The Big Moves

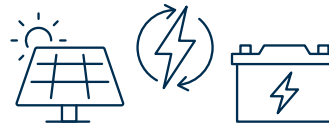


Resilient Efficient Buildings

To reduce building sector emissions, Canmore's CEAP calls for increasing energy efficiency in buildings and the electrification of equipment.

Key actions:

- Improve the efficiency of new buildings so they require less total energy.
- Improve the efficiency of existing buildings through deep energy retrofits.
- Convert space heating and cooling, as well as water heating systems, to low-carbon systems, preferentially heat pumps.
- Convert any other systems that use fossil fuels, including natural gas stoves or dryers, to electric systems.
- Ensure equity is centred in programming and supports developed to encourage these actions.



Clean, Resilient Energy

Switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy is key to decarbonization.

Key actions:

- Identify and remove existing regulatory and other barriers to renewable energy.
- Expand rooftop solar on buildings in Canmore.
- Add solar canopies on municipal parking lots around the community
- Purchase renewable electricity for all municipal operations.
- Explore large-scale renewable energy generation both within and outside the town.

Community Solar Garden

A community solar garden is a subscription program where community members can invest in solar energy without having to install their own solar panels. For example, Boulder, Colorado, has offered solar garden programs dedicated to income-qualified participants since 2021.

Rethinking Transportation and Mobility



Transportation is the largest emitting sector in Canmore. As a visitor town in the world-renowned Banff National Park region, Canmore sees a lot of visitor traffic, all of which is fueled by high-carbon fuels like gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuel. Addressing transportation sector emissions will require avoiding or shifting as many vehicle trips as possible and decarbonizing vehicles through electrification.

Key actions:

- Expand and electrify transit options within Canmore and to nearby destinations.
- Expand the network of charging stations to support electrification of personal vehicles.
- Increase walking and biking for short trips, including expanding the town's active transportation network and protected bike lanes.
- Fund an expanded and longer-term electric bike incentive program.
- Encourage car sharing programs.
- Establish car-free zones within the community.

Efficient Waste, Water, and Wastewater Management



Limiting waste emissions requires residents and businesses in Canmore to reduce their waste generation and divert as much waste as possible from the landfill. Similar tactics are applicable to the water and wastewater sector.

Key actions:

- Develop and implement a system-wide leak detection system for the municipal water supply system to identify and reduce leaks.
- Develop and implement an underground utility life-cycle upgrades program to reduce water loss, inflow, and infiltration.
- Include rainwater harvesting and greywater recycling systems in new buildings.
- Ensure all properties install smart water monitoring systems.
- Reduce total waste generation, and improve organic waste diversion for all sectors.
- Divert most food waste to composting systems.
- Develop and implement a water conservation strategy, focusing on large users.
- Convert to an anaerobic digestion system for wastewater treatment, with methane capture.
- Shift waste disposal to a landfill with methane capture and utilization.

Low-Carbon Scenario

If the CEAP is fully implemented, GHG emissions in Canmore are projected to follow the trajectory depicted in Figure 17 (next pages). The low-carbon scenario results in a 97% reduction in total GHG emissions by 2050 from the 2022 baseline. Canmore can monitor new and emerging technologies and continue to identify and engage opportunities to address the remaining 'carbon gap' of 11 ktCO₂e in 2050.

Annex 9 outlines the estimated financial costs and benefits of each action in the low-carbon scenario and the scenario as a whole.

A Low-Carbon Scenario (LCS) Explained

A low-carbon scenario (LCS) is a projected future situation in which the amount of carbon emissions is significantly reduced to mitigate the effects of climate change. This can be achieved through a combination of measures such as increasing the use of clean energy sources, improving energy efficiency, and reducing overall consumption of fossil fuels.

LCSs can be modelled using computer simulations that take into account different economic, technological, and policy factors to project how emissions will change over time under different assumptions. The assumptions used in Canmore's CEAP were reviewed by Town staff. They are used to evaluate the effectiveness of different policy options for reducing emissions and to inform decisions about how to achieve a low-carbon future.

LCSs are used in the context of energy and power systems, transportation and mobility, buildings and urban systems, industry and manufacturing, and land use.

A Climate-Ready Future for Canmore

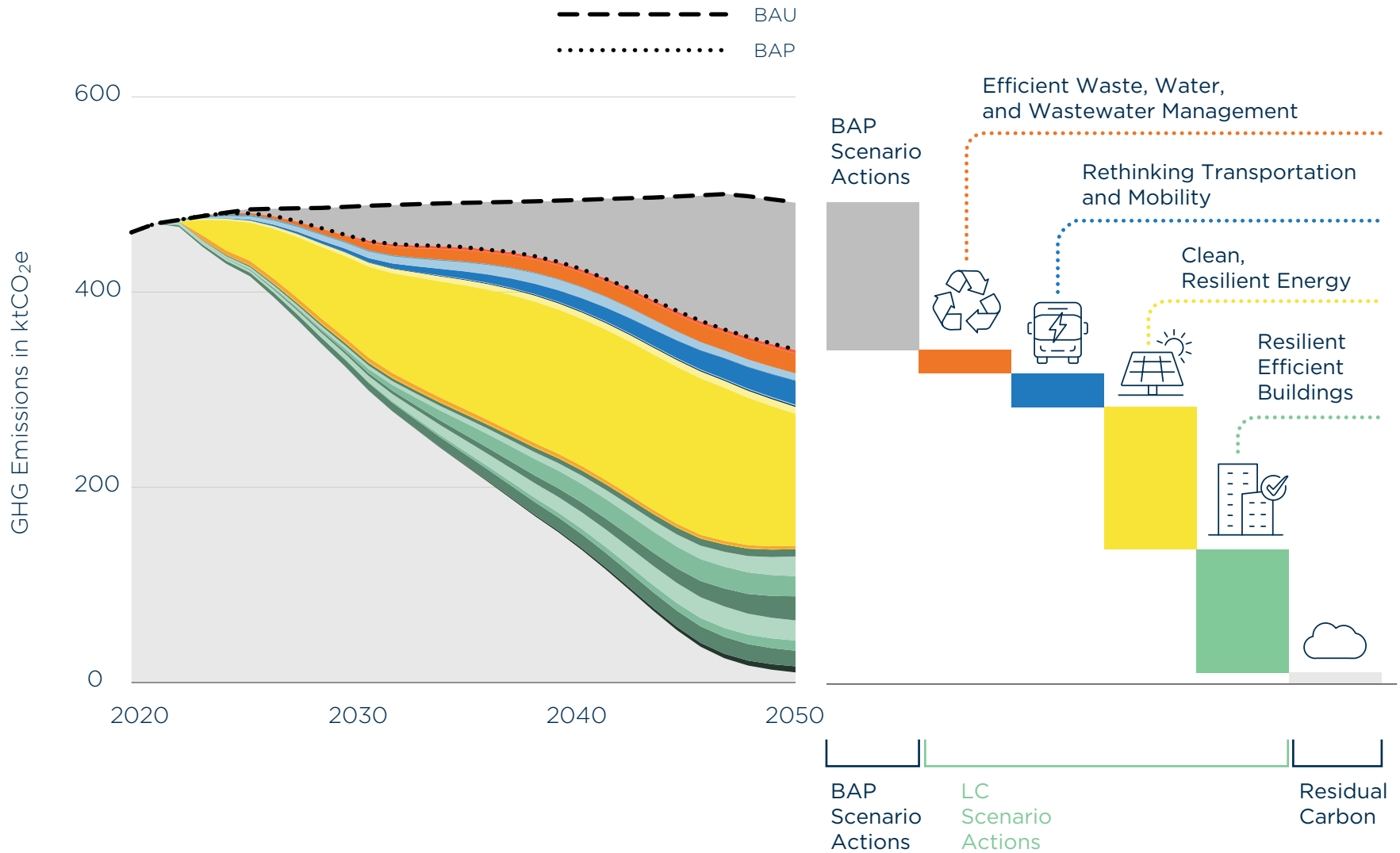


Figure 17.1. The emissions reduction impact of each Big Move in the Low Carbon pathway, 2022-2050.

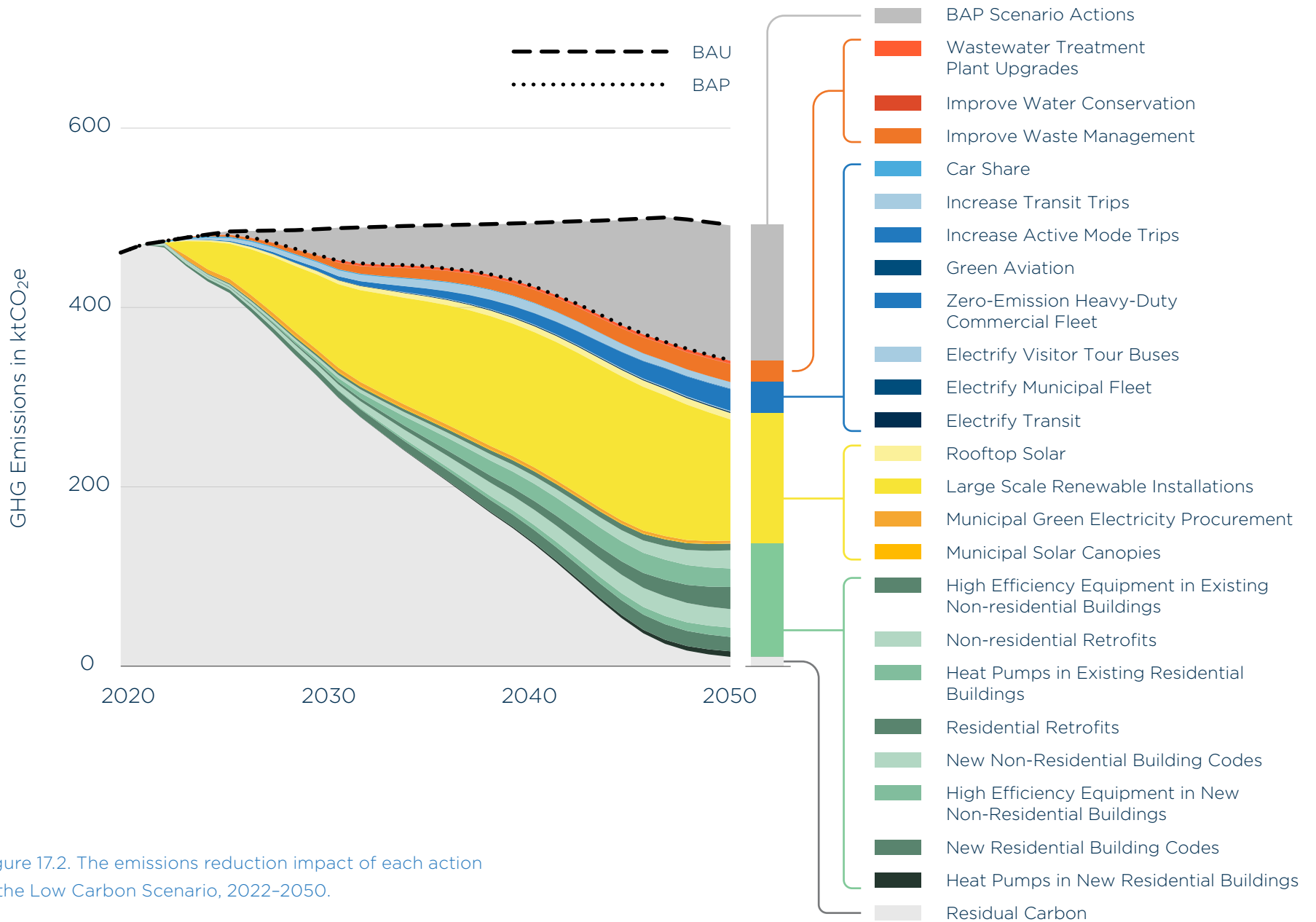


Figure 17.2. The emissions reduction impact of each action in the Low Carbon Scenario, 2022-2050.

The Economic Opportunities of an Energy Transition

Historically, there has been a discourse at the political level that climate action costs money and requires sacrifices. However, an economic analysis of the costs and benefits of implementing the low-carbon scenario in the community of Canmore finds the opposite. There are compelling economic reasons to implement a net-zero pathway as quickly as possible, with no financial downsides.

Investments and Savings

Implementing the CEAP and transitioning to a low-carbon economy will require investments that are spread out across residents, businesses, institutions, the Town of Canmore, and other levels of government between now and 2050. Conversely, the actions will generate returns beginning immediately after implementation and provide an ongoing economic opportunity for the community.

The financial impacts outlined in this CEAP identify the projected investments and returns associated with low-carbon measures that are above and beyond those assumed in the reference BAP scenario. For example, the incremental capital investment is the difference between a net-zero home and a conventional home, or an electric vehicle and a gasoline vehicle. These incremental costs are partially or completely offset by incremental savings; to continue the example, an electric vehicle costs less to operate than a gasoline vehicle.

The financial analysis is developed at the low-carbon pathway level, meaning it represents total costs across the community and does not allocate costs or savings specifically to the municipality or other sectors or investors. Costs to the municipality are dependent on the degree to which the municipal government chooses to invest in certain actions and incentivize other sectors. To implement the CEAP, it will be critical to investigate all financial tools available to the municipal government and other community stakeholders—including individuals, businesses, and other levels of government—as capital costs and upfront investments are considered a primary barrier to climate action.

Investments are likely less than 3% of Canmore’s annual GDP

Implementing Canmore’s CEAP requires a community-wide investment totalling \$843 million from 2024 and 2050, averaging \$32 million annually. To put this into perspective, the CEAP investments represent 2.54% of Canmore’s annual gross domestic product (GDP) of \$1.26 billion per year.⁷ These investments generate returns from avoided costs for energy, operations and maintenance, and carbon price (Figure 18). These benefits accrue to the community as a whole, including households, businesses, and the Town itself.

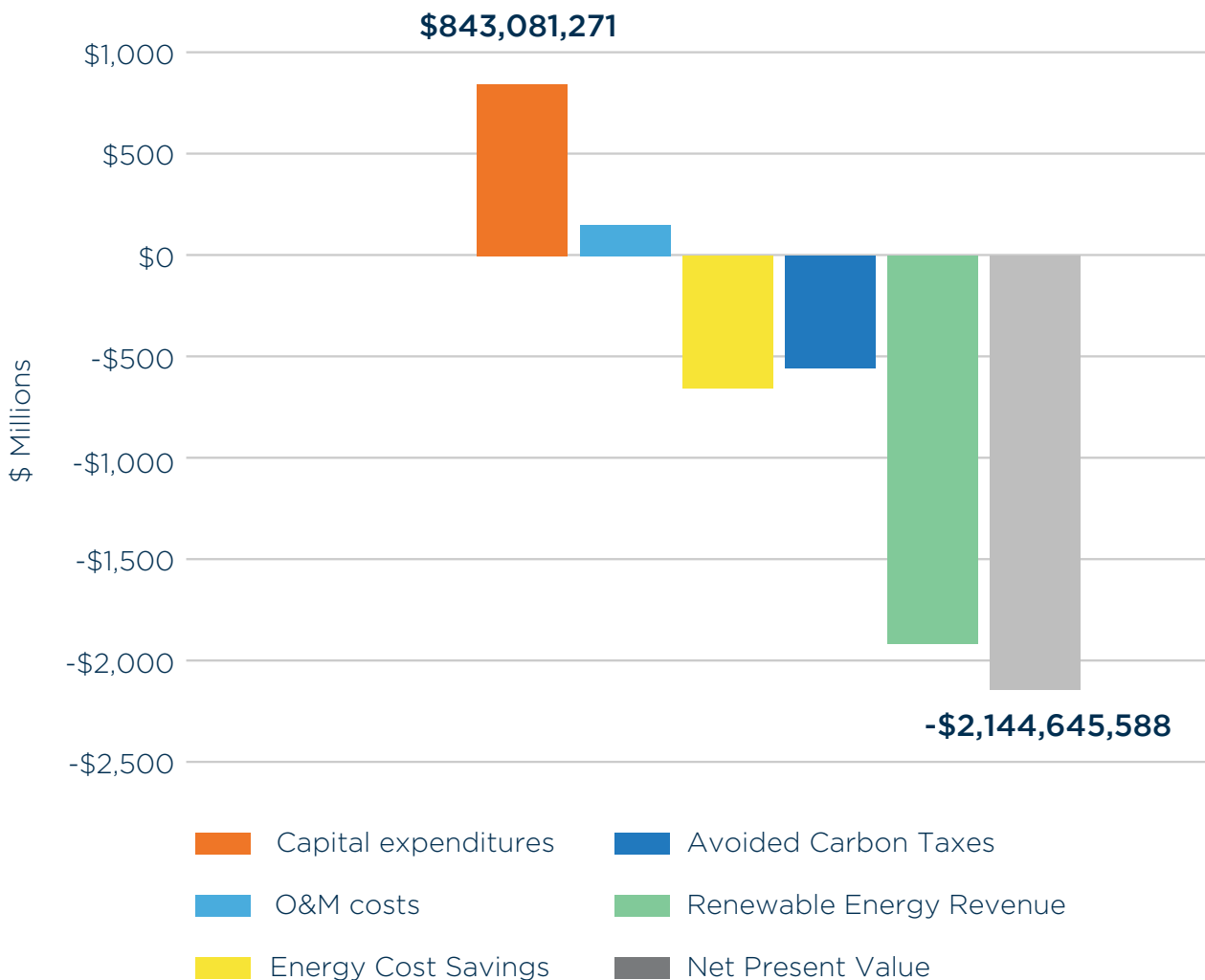


Figure 18. Present value of investments and returns, discounted at 3% (costs are positive and revenue and savings are negative), 2024–2050.

⁷ Calculated based on provincial average productivity of labour.

Investments are front loaded

Figure 19 illustrates the level of investments that would be required by residents, businesses, and government to decarbonize Canmore. Similar to other low-carbon transitions, costs are higher in the earlier years as the infrastructure and systems needed to achieve GHG emissions reductions must be put in place rapidly. However, financing most of these investments can be amortized to spread out the cost over time. By the year 2028, savings outweigh the costs.

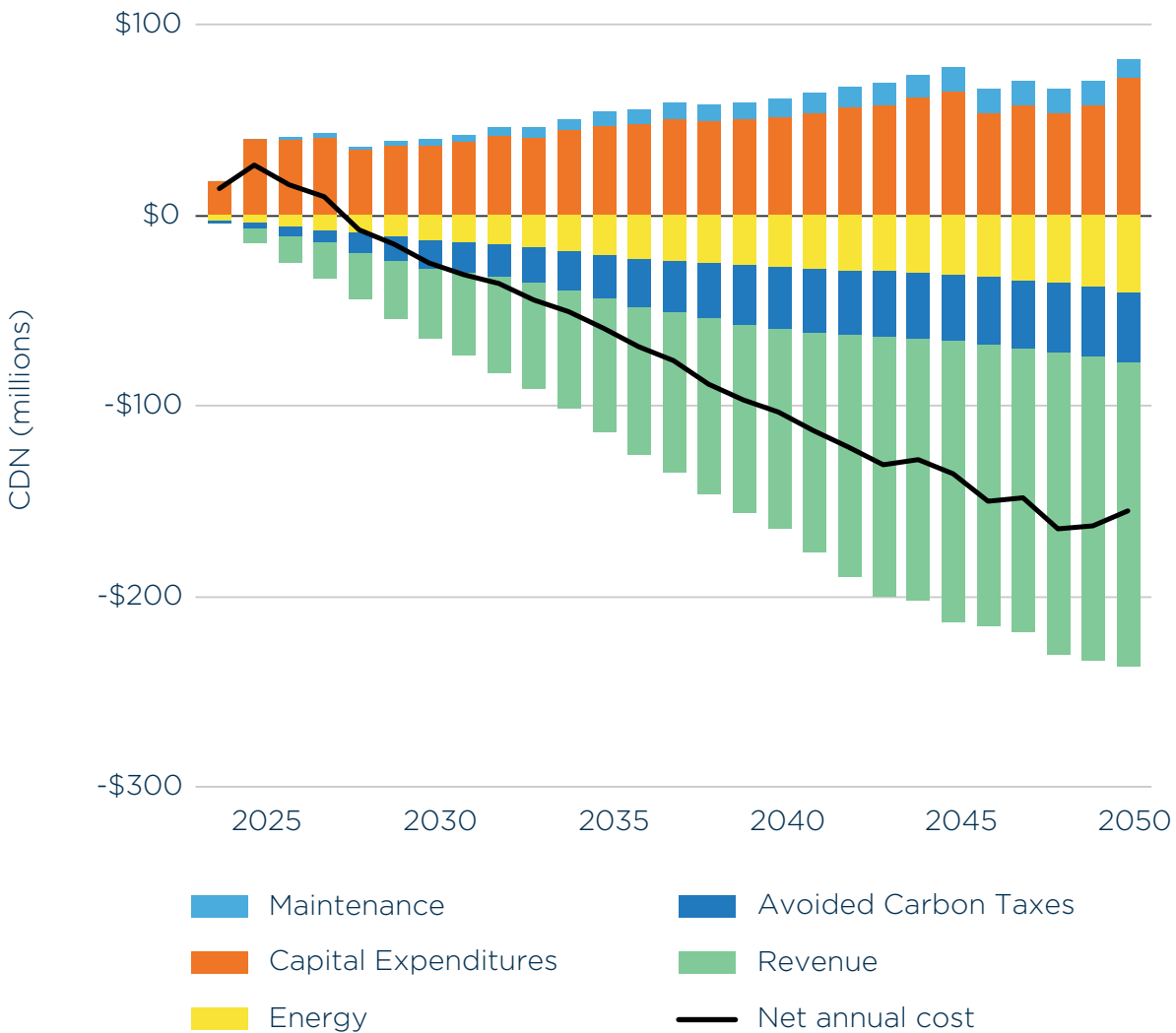


Figure 19. Year-on-year investments and returns, undiscounted, 2024-2050.

Most of the capital investments are for residential and commercial building retrofits and renewable energy installation. Retrofits and renewables provide long-term energy savings, with some additional revenue for renewable energy production, but entail high upfront costs. The incremental investment in transportation is negligible because the costs of light-duty electric vehicles are projected to reach parity with gas- and diesel-powered vehicles as early as 2026.⁸ The reduced operational costs and avoided carbon tax represent a major opportunity for cost savings going forward.

Linking investments to actions

The marginal abatement cost (MAC) is the incremental cost of preventing one tonne of GHG emissions. The lower the cost, the more affordable the action; in some cases, the action can be profitable. The abatement cost is calculated by summing the net present value of capital costs and operating costs over the lifetime of the investments divided by the tonnes of GHGs reduced.

By indicating individual costs for actions, MACs can imply that the actions are a menu from which individual actions can be selected. In fact, many of the actions are dependent on each other. For example, energy costs increase without retrofits. To be successful, the CEAP must be implemented in full. Additionally, in order to achieve Canmore's emissions reduction targets, all the actions need to be undertaken as soon as possible.

Figure 20 (next page) summarizes the MACs for modelled actions for Canmore. The actions with negative abatement costs generate financial returns over their lifetimes. A positive abatement cost signifies a net cost over the span of the project. This comparison provides one way to view the costs and benefits of implementing emissions-reducing actions, but should not be the only metric used to evaluate an action.

⁸ Slowik, Peter et.al. (2022). Assessment of light-duty vehicle costs and consumer benefits in the United States in the 2022-2035 time frame. The International Council on Clean Transportation. White Paper. October 18, 2022. Retrieved from <https://theicct.org/publication/ev-cost-benefits-2035-oct22/>

A Climate-Ready Future for Canmore

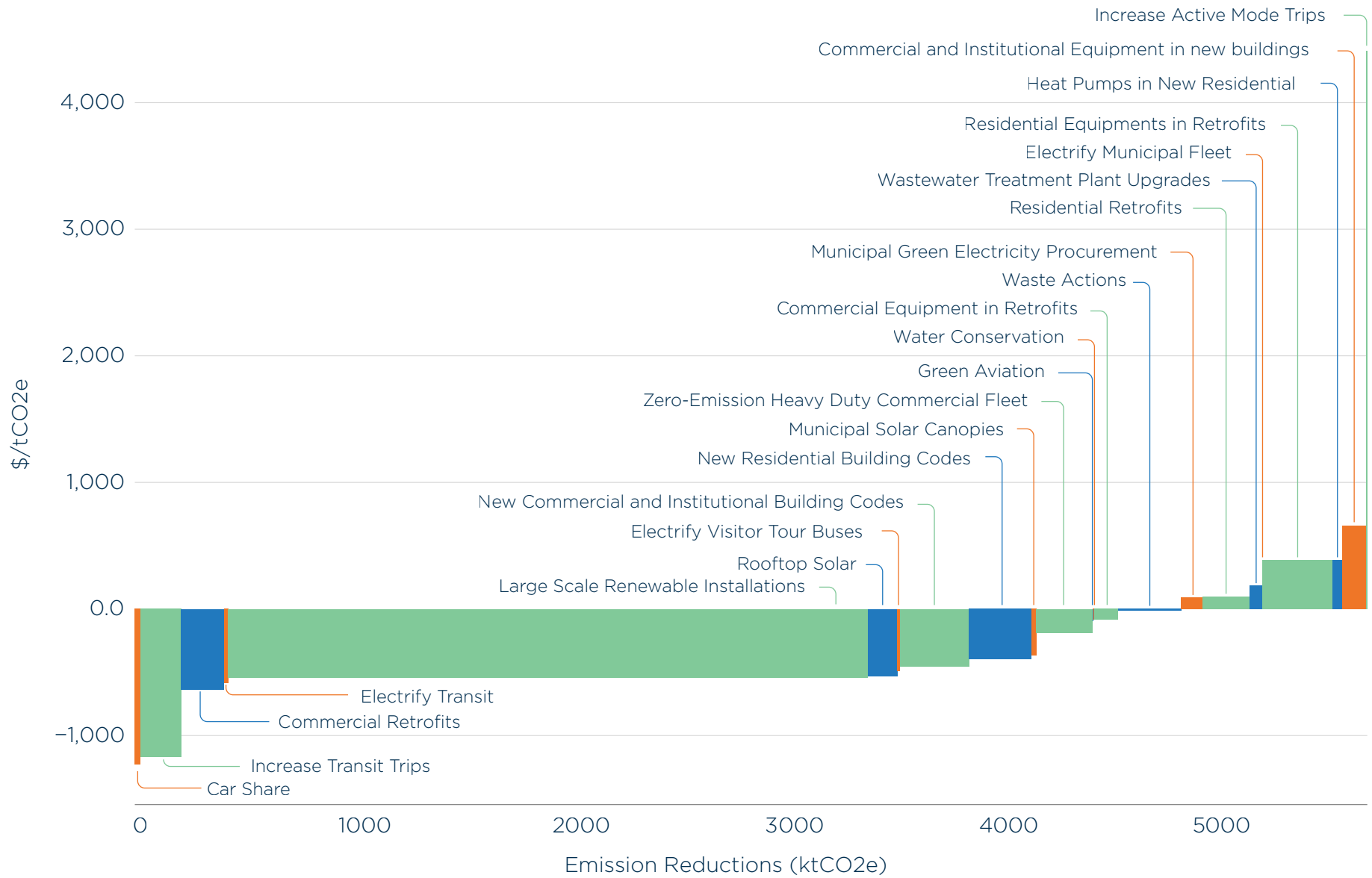


Figure 20. Marginal abatement costs for low-carbon scenario.

Investments generate new jobs

Transitioning to a zero-carbon economy is expected to have four types of impacts on the job market:

- Additional jobs will be created in emerging sectors;
- Some employment will be shifted (e.g., from the fossil fuels industry to clean technology);
- Certain jobs will be reduced or eliminated (e.g., mechanics for gasoline or diesel cars); and
- Many existing jobs will be transformed or redefined.

For Canmore, implementing the CEAP is expected to add 5,900 person-years of employment between 2024 and 2050.

Investments reduces household energy costs

Household energy expenditures—on natural gas, electricity, gasoline, and diesel—are projected to decline by 15% in the BAP scenario, from \$4,000 in 2023 to \$3,400 by 2050. In the BAP scenario, these savings mainly result from reduced vehicle fuel expenditures due to vehicle electrification following federal targets, increased substitution of traditional heating equipment with more efficient heat pumps, and decreased heating requirements as the climate becomes milder due to climate change.

In the low-carbon scenario, household energy expenditures fall by 36% to \$2,600 by 2050. Depending on the business, policy, and financing strategies used in implementing the actions, these savings will be partly offset by the incremental capital expenditures required. Investments in building energy retrofits, faster vehicle electrification, increased transit and active trips, high-performance buildings, and renewable energy generation all contribute to significantly reducing average household energy expenditures.

Leave no one behind

An analysis of climate action and climate action plans indicates that investments which reduce GHG emissions will result in the following:

- Net savings for households, municipalities, and businesses;
- Reduced exposure to fluctuations in energy commodity prices;
- Reduced exposure to carbon pricing;
- Support for economic development; and
- New jobs.

These impacts have financial benefits for all actors in the community, but these benefits may be disproportionate. Special considerations must be made to ensure equity-denied members of the population are not left behind or adversely impacted by climate action. As Canmore works to integrate equity considerations across the community, consideration of the unique characteristics and needs of different neighbourhoods will shape how the CEAP is implemented. Below is a summary of the policy recommendations, supported by pertinent data from the equity analysis, to address the challenges identified and foster an inclusive approach to climate action.

1. Actions for homeowners in established neighbourhoods

- Implement subsidies for retrofitting energy efficiency in homes, particularly targeting homeowner households with mortgages or neighbourhoods with higher rates of energy poverty. Identify areas with lower income and higher energy burden to act as early adopters for these programs and subsidies.
- Develop policies that encourage energy efficiency and resilience retrofits for second-home owners to reduce overall energy demand. Publish energy rankings of homes used as vacation rentals to encourage retrofits.
- Support the development and implementation of community-based sustainability projects and green initiatives.

2. Actions for renters

- Increase support for rental housing retrofits, particularly in locations with higher rates of energy poverty.
- Develop affordable housing solutions and enhance energy efficiency in apartment dwellings.
- Ensure rental properties have EV charging facilities and renewable electricity generation included in retrofit programs.

3. Actions for developing neighbourhoods

- Develop actions to encourage efficient and resilient new housing development, with a focus on removing fossil fuels for heating and cooling and reducing energy consumption in new homes.
- Encourage adopting renewable energy in new constructions.
- Support the development and implementation of community-based sustainability projects and green initiatives.
- Look for opportunities to encourage dense, walkable development in these neighbourhoods.

4. Actions for community connectivity

- Expand transit service and frequency to allow both established and developing neighbourhoods to rely less on personal vehicles for travel within Canmore, as well as to neighbouring communities.
- Expand active transportation infrastructure to encourage walking, biking, and wheeling, when possible.
- Focus on neighbourhoods with a lower median income, higher rates of energy poverty, and more renters for initial deployment.

The Pathway to Resilience

Canmore can become more resilient to the changing climate through taking actions that reduce the vulnerability and consequences of climate hazards, and that increase the town's preparedness and adaptive capacity.

These actions include changes to how and where buildings and other infrastructure are built, and improvements to existing homes and businesses. They include monitoring and managing natural spaces for pests and invasive species, and for ecosystem health, particularly in vulnerable or high-risk locations. They also include preparing for emergency events—including heat waves, floods, and wildfires—to ensure the community, the Town, and emergency services are coordinated on emergency preparedness, responses, and recovery. To explore the impact these actions can have on the community, three scenarios were modelled:

1. The present day, where current, population levels, land use and climate risks were modelled;
2. The 2070 BAP scenario, where the expected growth and development of Canmore by 2070 was modelled, and combined with the expected climate conditions of 2070; and
3. The 2070 Adapted Scenario (AS), where actions to reduce the risk from climate change were modelled with the 2070 climate conditions.

The following sections outline specific modelled and non-modelled actions Canmore can take to address climate hazards.



Ecoregion Changes

Key actions:

- Establish forest monitoring and management programs to track pests and invasive species.
- Update the Urban Forest Management Plan to include climate considerations and pest management.
- FireSmart buildings and vegetation to reduce fire risk.
- Educate the community on how to identify vectors and protect themselves from disease.
- Encourage citizen science programming to monitor ecosystem health and the spread of invasive species.
- Work with the tourism industry to share educational materials on the identification of disease vectors, and how to protect visitors and workers from disease.



Wildfire and Smoke

Key actions:

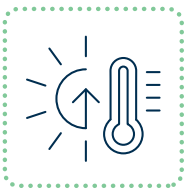
- Integrate FireSmarting into new building planning, including using fire-resistant building materials.
- Work with the community to implement FireSmarting on existing buildings, and include monitoring for continued compliance over time.
- Deploy the Smoke Emergency Response Plan.
- Continue fuel management in high-risk forested areas, partnering with other jurisdictions to align activities and maximize effectiveness.
- Develop and update community-wide evacuation route planning, particularly for neighbourhoods with limited road access.
- Update the Municipal Emergency Management Plan to include visitors and the tourism sector.



Steep Creek Flooding

Key actions:

- Continue to fund and implement steep creek debris flow mitigation measures, and continue to monitor slopes for additional threats to downstream areas.
- Work with Engineering, Public Works and Protective Services to prioritize movement of essential services during an emergency.
- Work with Protective Services, Communications, and Engineering to prepare and coordinate emergency response plans and education for vulnerable locations.
- Adhere to building codes to keep development out of high-risk areas.
- Continue to identify and maintain locations within the community to serve as short-term shelters for evacuees during emergency events.



Extreme Heat

Key actions:

- Deploy the Extreme Heat Emergency Response Plan.
- Retrofit homes and other buildings for energy efficiency and add space cooling with efficient heat pumps.
- Incentivize the development of efficient new buildings, and include space cooling using electric heat pumps.
- Add cooling centres to high-risk areas.
- Develop a heat stress policy for all outdoor workers.
- Plant heat-resistant and climate-proofed tree species, and install shade structures in public spaces.



Riverine Flooding

Key actions:

- Increase the flood protection infrastructure for the wastewater treatment plant.
- Protect existing buildings in the Bow River floodplain with dry flood-proofing measures.
- Continuously review community-wide evacuation plans and routes, with a focus on neighbourhoods with vulnerable populations and challenging access to designated emergency routes.
- Increase the Flood Construction Level for new buildings within the floodplain.
- Include future flooding conditions in planning and development decisions.
- Develop emergency plans for rapid deployment during floods to protect buildings and infrastructure, and coordinate evacuations.
- Identify emergency shelters for use during flood evacuations.

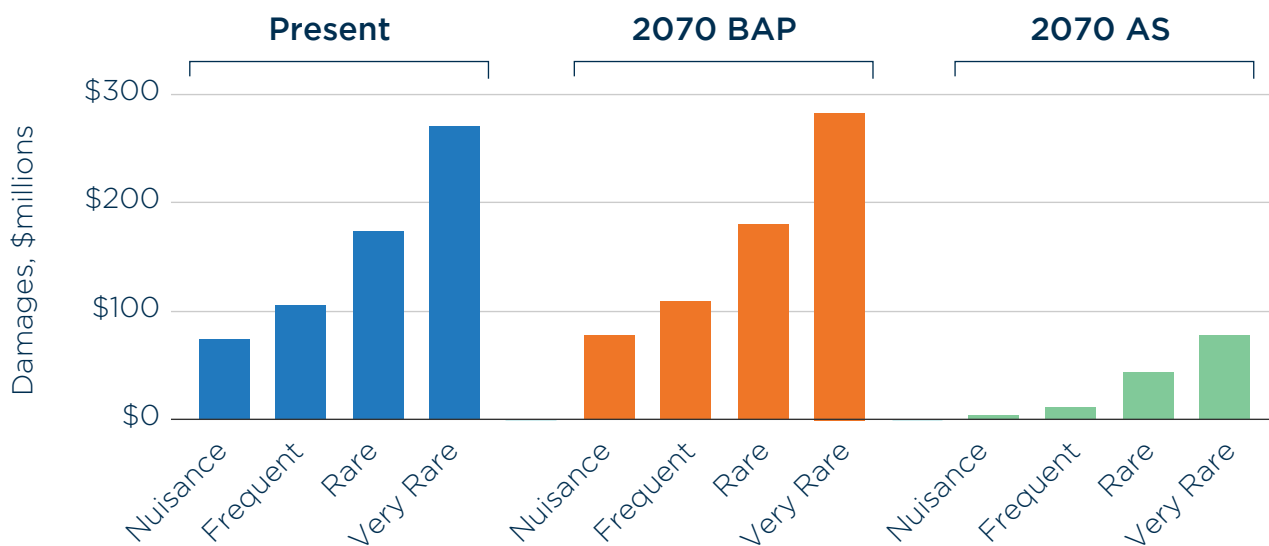


Figure 21. Total annual damages from flooding by return period for present day (\$ millions), 2070 BAP and 2070 Adapted Scenario (AS) summed across the entirety of Canmore.



Water Security

Key actions:

- Increase flood protection measures for the wastewater treatment plant.
- Develop a leak detection system for the municipal water supply.
- Develop a drought contingency plan that identifies when water use restrictions should be considered.
- Develop a bylaw to restrict activities in sensitive drinking water source areas.
- Encourage water conservation by the public, visitors, and businesses.
- Protect water quality by restricting the use of pesticides, particularly in places with vulnerable groundwater.



Co-benefits

Co-benefits in Canmore

Actions which reduce GHG emissions can also advance objectives for improved health, equity, prosperity, and climate adaptation. In many cases, these actions correspond or directly overlap with actions that create vibrant cities and towns, improve public health outcomes, reduce municipal and state operating and capital costs, and support innovation—these are no-regret policies. These corollary benefits, or co-benefits, are positive actions that occur beyond the primary objective of a measure or a policy. The opposite, a co-harm, is an unintended negative consequence that results from an action or policy.

One distinction, made by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), is that co-benefits are effects that are valued in the mitigation (emissions reduction) costs of a policy or action, whereas ancillary or additional benefits are effects that are incidental and are not accounted for in that analysis.⁹ In this plan, co-benefits are assumed to be any potential or anticipated benefits of the action in addition to its impact on GHG emissions.

Not all co-benefits nor co-harms are equal. One set of criteria by which to consider the co-benefits of actions to reduce GHG emissions follows:¹⁰

- **Synergies:** Many low-carbon actions have multiple socio-economic benefits including transit improvements, energy efficiency, and compact urban design.
- **Urgency:** Some actions are associated with a higher degree of urgency in order to avoid loss of inertia on action already taken, lock-in effects,¹¹ irreversible outcomes, or deferred costs that become even more elevated as a result of deferment. Some low-carbon actions require time to be effective, which makes immediate implementation all the more important.
- **Costs:** The cost of early action is generally lower than the cost of later action, in particular because delayed action involves ongoing investments in infrastructure, activities, and utilities that have higher emissions than low-carbon solutions. Examples include renewable energy infrastructure, transit, and energy efficiency.

⁹ IPCC. (2014). Annex II: Glossary [Agard, J., E.L.F. Schipper, J. Birkmann, M. Campos, C. Dubeux, Y. Nojiri, L. Olsson, B. Osman-Elasha, M. Pelling, M.J. Prather, M.G. Rivera-Ferre, O.C. Ruppel, A. Sallenger, K.R. Smith, A.L. St. Clair, K.J. Mach, M.D. Mastrandrea, and T.E. Bilir (eds.)]. In: *Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Part B: Regional Aspects. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [Barros, V.R., C.B. Field, D.J. Dokken, M.D. Mastrandrea, K.J. Mach, T.E. Bilir, M. Chatterjee, K.L. Ebi, Y.O. Estrada, R.C. Genova, B. Girma, E.S. Kissel, A.N. Levy, S. MacCracken, P.R. Mastrandrea, and L.L. White (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp. 1757-1776. p. 1762.

¹⁰ Adapted from (Fay et al., 2015).

¹¹ The lock-in effect refers to the implementation of a strategy or action that improves the performance of an object or activity in the short term but is prohibitive to future change. The lock-in effect can refer to building upgrades or land use, for instance. As an example, where quick building retrofits are undertaken, no additional improvements in the equipment installed can be expected over the course of its lifetime without considerable additional expense. In this way, lower levels of energy reductions can be locked in for a long period.

- **Longevity:** Related to urgency, the longevity of investment decisions locks society into their effects for decades,¹² if not centuries.
- **Distribution effects:** Low-carbon actions have different impacts on different subsets of the population, including income levels, generations (including future generations), race, and ethnicities.

Assessing the co-benefits and co-harms of climate action allows us to identify secondary benefits to the community and reduce the occurrence of co-harms. The following is a high-level review of the co-benefits that Canmore would experience by implementing the CEAP, including reduced reliance on fossil fuels, expanded active transportation and transit options, and building improvements for energy efficiency. Co-harms were considered in the development of proposed actions, and avoided where possible.

Air Quality and Health Benefits

The implementation of this plan is set to yield significant co-benefits in terms of improved air quality and consequent health benefits for Canmore's community. As we progress toward a lower emission future, primarily through reducing reliance on fossil fuels and increasing green spaces, we can anticipate a notable improvement in air quality.

New Air Quality Guidelines by the World Health Organization¹³ demonstrates the substantial health risks associated with air pollution, even at lower concentrations than previously understood. By reducing key air pollutants, which include some that contribute to climate change, these guidelines aim to save millions of lives affected by conditions such as respiratory infections, asthma, heart disease, stroke, and diabetes. The guidelines emphasize that adhering to improved air quality standards could prevent millions of premature deaths annually, making it a global health priority on par with risks like unhealthy diets and tobacco smoking.

¹² For example, when a new building is constructed, if it does not have low-carbon design built in from the beginning, this infrastructure decision comes with a multi-decade set of consequences (as most buildings are built to last 50+ years).

¹³ New WHO Global Air Quality Guidelines aim to save millions of lives from air pollution. 22 September 2021. Retrieved from:
<https://www.who.int/news/item/22-09-2021-new-who-global-air-quality-guidelines-aim-to-save-millions-of-lives-from-air-pollution>

Decreased emissions from vehicles and industries mean fewer pollutants like nitrogen oxides and particulate matter, which are directly linked to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases. Enhanced green spaces contribute to this improvement by acting as natural air filters, absorbing pollutants and providing cleaner air. Health benefits include a decrease in pollution-related illnesses, potentially leading to reduced healthcare costs and an increase in overall community well-being. Reduced air pollution also correlates with better cognitive functioning and mental health, further elevating the quality of life for Canmore's residents.

Active Transportation and Health Benefits

Active transportation, encompassing walking, cycling, and the use of other non-motorized forms of transport, is a key element of the CEAP. Encouraging active transportation not only reduces GHG emissions but also significantly enhances public health.

The co-benefits include increased physical activity leading to lower rates of obesity, heart disease, and type 2 diabetes. Regular physical activity through walking and cycling also contributes to improved mental health, potentially reducing symptoms of depression and anxiety. Moreover, active transportation supports community engagement and connectivity, fostering a sense of belonging and well-being. To maximize these benefits, our plan includes accelerating the extended development of safe, accessible, and extensive networks of bike lanes and pedestrian paths, making active transportation a viable and attractive option for all ages and abilities in Canmore.

Safe Healthy Buildings Benefits

Focusing on safe and healthy buildings in the CEAP leads to several co-benefits, central to both climate resilience and public health. The plan's emphasis on energy-efficient, well-insulated, and well-ventilated buildings ensures a healthier indoor environment, reducing the risks of respiratory problems, allergens, and mould growth. These improvements are particularly beneficial for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing health conditions.

Energy-efficient buildings also contribute to economic benefits by lowering energy costs, thus reducing the financial burden on households. Moreover, the use of sustainable, non-toxic building materials reduces exposure to harmful chemicals, contributing to overall better indoor air quality. Safe, resilient buildings also mean enhanced protection against climate-induced hazards, such as extreme temperatures and air quality issues, further safeguarding the health and well-being of Canmore's residents.



Equity

Equity emerges as a pivotal factor in the implementation of Canmore's Climate Emergency Action Plan, bridging climate action and social justice. Pursuing a low-carbon future, while beneficial, does not inherently guarantee equity. A conscious effort must be made to ensure fairness across various demographic groups and scenarios, addressing issues like intergenerational equity, income inequality, housing affordability, and global equity. Intergenerational equity is particularly significant, as younger and future generations inherit the consequences and responsibilities of climate actions taken today. Canmore's commitment to immediate emissions reductions can significantly lessen this burden.

Income inequality is a critical aspect of this equity conversation. The transition to a low-carbon economy often poses a greater financial challenge to those with lower incomes. For example, the upfront costs of energy-efficient upgrades can be prohibitive for low-income families, potentially leading to higher long-term costs and a widening of the equity gap. This scenario underscores the necessity for targeted support systems, such as instant rebates or time-of-purchase financial aids, which can be more inclusive and effective than post-purchase rebates. Furthermore, it is crucial to provide equitable access to transit and active transportation options. These services not only facilitate mobility but also enhance access to essential services and employment opportunities, particularly for those without personal vehicles.

Equity also extends beyond local and national borders. The adverse impacts of climate change disproportionately affect poorer nations, despite their relatively minor contributions to global emissions. This global inequality demands a more rapid and substantial response from wealthier nations, not only as a matter of fairness but also to mitigate the risks of climate-induced instability and conflict.

In summary, the implementation of Canmore's Climate Emergency Action Plan offers an opportunity to embody equitable practices that address both local and global disparities, ensuring that the pathway to sustainability is inclusive and just for all.

This section of the plan discusses intergenerational equity, income inequality, and global equity. Annex 8: Canmore's Climate Equity Analysis outlines the full equity analysis, including a look at energy poverty and transit access across the town's neighbourhoods (these factors are included in the Implementation Plan found in Annex 1).

Equity

Intergenerational Equity

As the impacts of climate change increase in frequency, duration, and severity, younger generations and generations yet to be born are and will be increasingly affected by the responsibility and impacts of reducing emissions contributed to systems created by older and past generations. Addressing emissions in the short-term decreases that burden.

Income Inequality

We often hear that it is “expensive to be poor” and that is true in the low-carbon transition unless an effort is made to decrease the financial burden for low-income individuals and families. For example, if a person cannot afford energy efficiency upgrades in their home due to the upfront cost, it could mean an increase in their ongoing costs or missing out on utilities savings that others in higher income brackets can take advantage of.

In addition, most utility fees are determined based on the fixed cost of operating and usage fees. This means that if a greater number of higher-income earning homes are using less energy, the fixed costs could increase per unit of energy used, disproportionately impacting lower-income households by costing them more money per unit of energy used. However, if individuals and families living on a low income are supported to make their homes and vehicles more efficient, they could see utility savings. The Town and other levels of government must play a role in ensuring that such supports are accessible for low-income earners. For example, providing instant rebates and other time-of-purchase financial supports may be more realistic than post-purchase rebates.

Access to transit and active transportation can also increase equity. For individuals who do not own a vehicle, especially for those that cannot own a vehicle due to cost, access to transit and active transportation increases the ability to get to services, appointments, activities, and employment. This is only possible if robust transit and active transportation networks are extended to areas within the community where lower-income earners reside, and are connected to areas with employment opportunities and services.

Individuals living on low and fixed incomes are also more susceptible to climate risks than wealthier individuals due to a lack of resources to prepare for climate-related events, limited access to transportation to flee during climate-related events, lack of money for alternative accommodations and to repair or restore their dwellings after an event, lack of space cooling during heat-related events, lack of access to affordable healthcare, and higher rates of comorbidities.¹⁴

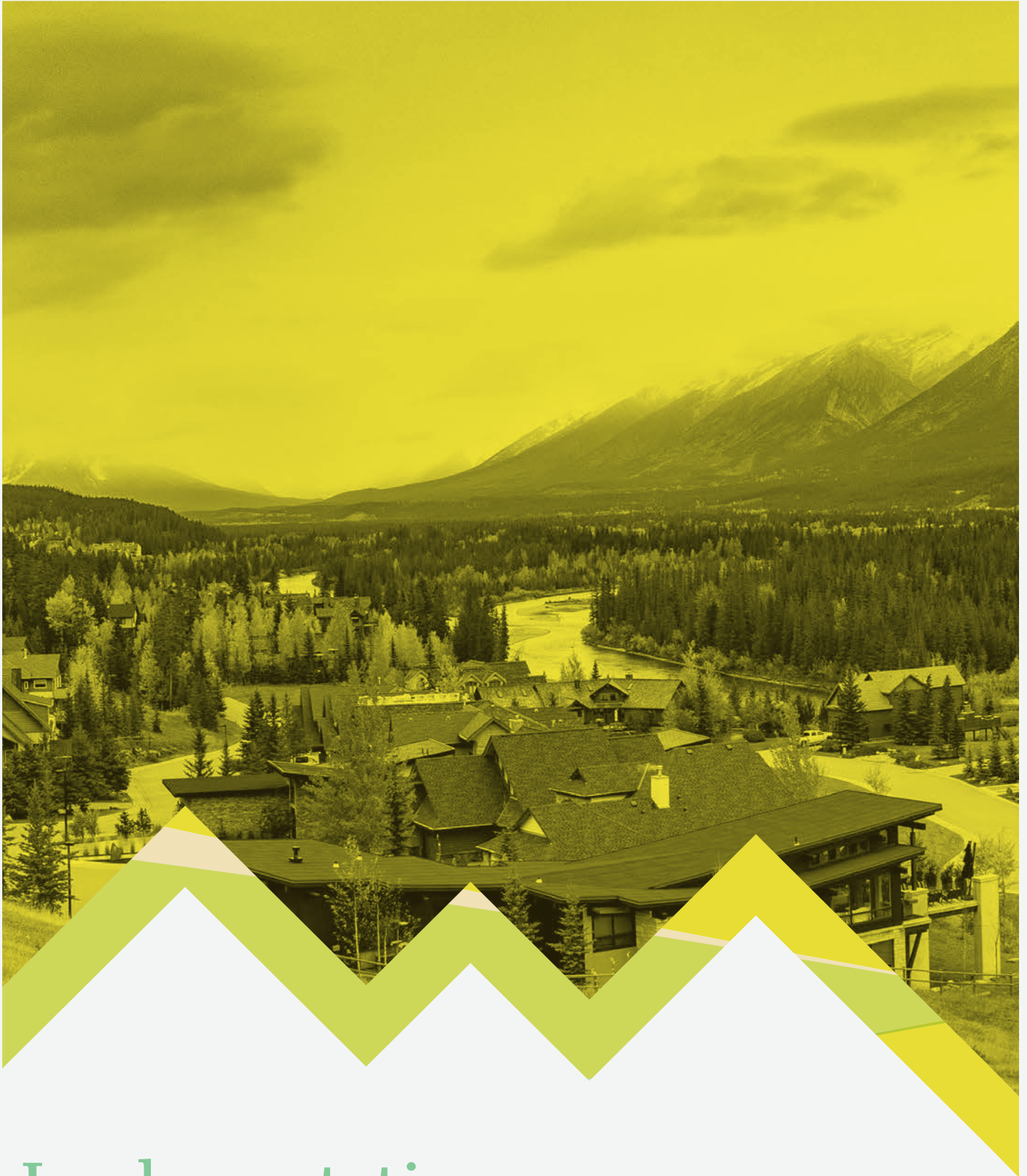
¹⁴ Comorbidities refer to the presence of multiple chronic conditions in a single individual. These conditions can be related or unrelated, and they can have a significant impact on a person's overall health and well-being. Examples of comorbidities include diabetes and heart disease, or depression and anxiety.

Global Equity

Globally, climate change is currently having a disproportionate impact on poorer nations who experience more climate-related events and higher mortality rates as a result. Climate-related events, such as extreme weather events and rising sea levels, can happen more frequently and with greater severity in poorer nations due to a combination of factors. These nations often lack the resources and infrastructure to prepare for and recover from severe weather events and other climate-related impacts. They also tend to be located in areas that are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, such as coastal regions or areas prone to drought. Additionally, poorer nations are less likely to have the economic means to adapt to the changing climate, making them more susceptible to the negative effects of climate change.

Many of the countries impacted by climate change have also had a lesser impact on the increased use of fossil fuels that has led to the current climate crisis. Led by C40,¹⁵ many communities have set GHG reduction targets that acknowledge that those in wealthier countries must act more rapidly to reduce emissions than communities struggling with widespread poverty. While action by wealthier countries is imperative from an equity standpoint, global climate mitigation can also help reduce the risk of climate-driven instabilities, refugee crises, conflicts, and threats to international security.

¹⁵ C40 is a network of mayors of nearly 100 world-leading cities collaborating to deliver the urgent action that is currently needed to confront the climate crisis. Learn more here: <https://www.c40.org>



Implementation

Implementing the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) for the Town of Canmore is an intricate process that involves comprehensive strategies and actions organized across various themes. These themes synergistically contribute to Canmore achieving a sustainable, resilient, and low-carbon community.

Our first theme, “Municipal Leadership,” sets the tone, highlighting the critical role of the Town in guiding, exemplifying, and facilitating climate action. It underscores the necessity for developing a municipal carbon budget, retrofitting public buildings, and electrifying the Town fleet.

The second theme, “Resilient, Efficient Buildings,” targets the reduction of emissions from Canmore’s building stock. It advocates for energy-efficient retrofitting of existing buildings and adopting stringent standards for new constructions, ensuring they are not only energy-efficient but also resilient to climate impacts.

Theme three, “Clean Resilient Energy,” focuses on the shift to renewable energy sources, crucial for reducing the town’s reliance on fossil fuels. This includes promoting solar installations and exploring community-level renewable energy projects.

Theme four, “Safe and Protected Natural Spaces,” focuses on preserving Canmore’s unique natural environment. This involves managing forests and water bodies to mitigate risks like wildfires and floods while enhancing their role in carbon sequestration and ecosystem health.

The fifth theme, “Emergency Preparedness for All,” recognizes the importance of preparing the community for climate-induced emergencies. It involves creating robust response plans, ensuring efficient evacuation routes, and educating the community on emergency preparedness.

Transportation, a significant emission source, is addressed in “Rethinking Transportation and Mobility,” the sixth theme. It envisions a shift to electric vehicles, enhanced public transit, and improved infrastructure for active transportation like walking and biking.

The seventh and final theme, “Efficient Waste, Water, and Wastewater Management,” emphasizes safeguarding essential services against climate impacts and managing resources efficiently. This includes implementing strategies for water conservation and waste reduction, and ensuring the resilience of wastewater management systems.

Collectively, these themes form a cohesive strategy to transform Canmore into a model of sustainable development and climate resilience. Each theme, while distinct, is interdependent and requires an integrated approach to implementation, ensuring that every action contributes toward the overarching goal of a sustainable, resilient Canmore.

Implementation

Presented here are the key high-level strategies and actions for the CEAP's implementation. The full implementation plan, including all actions, with additional technical details, timelines, and risk analysis can be found in a separate document, Annex 1: Implementation Plan.

It should be noted that the Town cannot implement all of the necessary actions on its own. It requires policies, programs, and funding from the federal and provincial governments. For this reason, a number of the actions are to advocate to the Province or Federal Government for aspects that are out of the Town's sphere of control. There are also actions that require collaboration and partnership with organizations.

Theme 1: Municipal Leadership

Decisions made by the Town of Canmore shape all of the community, now and into the future. By establishing itself as a leader in climate action, the Town can demonstrate to the community and the world what is possible when climate action is the north star guiding all decisions, plans, and actions. While the Town itself does not have direct jurisdiction over every element of energy use, GHG emissions production, or climate adaptation, it can serve as a hub of learning and sharing, and a catalyst for change.

GHG impacts: Most of these actions are enabling actions, supporting the decarbonization of municipal buildings and the fleet, which will reduce GHG emissions by 124 KtCO₂e from 2022 to 2050.

Adaptation impacts: The Town acts as a convenor, communicator, and coordinator for emergency response, risk management, and asset management. Centralizing climate change in Town planning and decision-making will reduce risk across all hazards.

Strategy: Internal Leadership

- Ensure that climate change remains a strategic priority for Canmore.
- Adopt an annual carbon budget, and tools and resources to integrate a climate lens into municipal planning and decision-making.
- Expand staffing and resources for implementing the CEAP.
- Ensure staff have the capacity and knowledge to implement the CEAP, and conduct training sessions and workshops on advanced climate change concepts.

What Is a Carbon Budget?

A carbon budget, or a climate budget, is a governance system that offers a way for municipalities to turn climate commitments into funded and measurable actions across the municipal government. It embeds climate targets, measures, and considerations into decision-making as part of a municipality's ordinary budgeting process.¹⁷

The climate budget framework brings urgency to municipal carbon management by converting long-term targets into annual emissions limits or carbon budgets. All project proposals are quantified through a climate lens, the sum of which could then be evaluated against the carbon budget.

This framework would provide the Town of Canmore with a powerful tool for prioritizing projects and mainstreaming climate action to encompass the entire organization.

Strategy: Community Involvement

- Work with community groups to create an online platform for residents to monitor local projects, track progress toward community GHG reduction targets and adaptation actions, follow municipal initiatives, and stay updated on climate action efforts.
- Work with community groups to lead and educate on community-based broader environment and sustainability programming such as waste reduction, cycling promotion, water conservation, and air quality.

Theme 2: Resilient, Efficient Buildings

The buildings sector is an ideal place for implementing the paradigm of reducing energy demand, switching energy sources, and then producing energy locally to meet that need. Retrofitting existing buildings and upgrading building codes for new construction can dramatically reduce the total energy need and introduce opportunities to increase the resilience of buildings to climate hazards. This is then paired with decarbonization of the energy used for space heating and cooling, water heating, cooking, and other activities. Finally, renewable energy can be used to fuel these actions to reduce emissions as much as possible.

¹⁷ C40. Climate Budget. https://www.c40knowledgehub.org/s/topic/0TO1Q000000x2DNWAY/climate-budgeting?language=en_US

Implementation

GHG impacts: Actions to improve the efficiency of buildings, and decarbonize their energy can reduce 1,640 KtCO₂e from 2022 to 2050.

Adaptation impacts: Protecting new and existing buildings from riverine flooding can reduce flooding damages by millions of dollars. Ensuring that buildings are energy efficient and have space cooling allows people to remain safe and comfortable during heat events. FireSmarting significantly reduces the risk of damage from wildfire, protecting people and their properties year-round.

Strategy: Municipal Climate Leadership

- Retrofit municipal buildings to reduce energy demand, aiming for net-zero buildings.
- Expand the use of renewable energy on municipal buildings and infrastructure.
- Dedicate staff to identify ways to reduce energy consumption, waste generation, and water consumption in municipal facilities.
- Use municipal retrofits and projects to act as demonstration projects to share learnings and successes with the community.

Strategy: Efficient and Resilient New Buildings

- Advocate for the Province to accelerate the adoption of high-efficiency building codes.
- Incentivize developers and builders to build net-zero buildings that are equipped with high-performance air filters to reduce wildfire smoke and other indoor pollutants.
- Consider additional measures to restrict development in the future-climate Bow River floodplains.
- Advocate for the adoption of net-zero-ready building codes.
- Promote the use of sustainable building materials.
- Explore mechanisms to develop life-cycle assessments for new buildings to reduce overall environmental impacts.
- Require new developments to include considerations to maximize solar electricity potential.

Strategy: Efficient and Resilient Residential Retrofits

- Advocate to the provincial and federal governments for supports for home retrofits to improve the efficiency of existing buildings.
- Develop mechanisms to transition away from natural gas and fossil fuels in buildings.

- Support the conversion to electric heat pumps for space heating and cooling, and water heating.
- Extend and expand the current four-year pilot of the residential Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) and/or develop additional measures for financing and incentives for building energy retrofits.
- Expand or develop a longer term program for low-income households to receive free energy audits and subsequent energy efficiency upgrades, aimed at reducing energy poverty.

Strategy: Efficient and Resilient Commercial and Institutional Retrofits

- Develop a CEIP for the commercial sector.
- Offer educational sessions to builders on net-zero design principles and funding opportunities.

Theme 3: Clean Resilient Energy

Expanding opportunities to access renewable energy in Canmore is essential for meeting the Town's GHG emissions targets. Fossil fuels like natural gas, gasoline, and diesel emit GHGs as they are used; the provincial electricity grid similarly uses fossil fuels to generate electricity. Renewable electricity, paired with energy efficiency, are the core of Canmore's low-carbon future.

GHG impacts: Decarbonizing energy in Canmore can reduce GHG emissions by 3,140 KtCO_{2e} from 2022 to 2050.

Adaptation impacts: Access to efficient, reliable back-up energy is critical for emergency management. Replacing back-up generators and fuel sources with batteries reduces emissions associated with back-up fuels, and can allow more homes to access back-up electricity during outages or emergencies.

Strategy: Renewable, Reliable Electricity

- Expand and accelerate current incentives and other programs to encourage and incentivize renewable and low-carbon energy systems (e.g., solar rooftop installations, parking lot solar canopies, ground and air source heat pumps) for all new and existing residential, commercial, and institutional buildings.
- Expand community programs that allow residents and businesses to subscribe to solar and other renewable energy at a reduced cost without requiring installation on their property.
- Set a goal for local solar energy to account for at least 20% of the community's electricity mix for buildings by 2030.

Strategy: Emergency Energy Management

Advocate for investment into Alberta's electricity grid to prepare for increasing extreme weather events, such as isolating and managing outages more effectively via 'smart grid' systems.

Advocate for a voluntary energy demand response program where residents and businesses can opt in to reduce energy usage during peak times in exchange for reduced utility rates or other incentives.

Strategy: Reducing Energy Poverty

Advocate for an energy bill assistance program that provides sliding scale payments so that no household spends more than a certain percentage of their income on energy.

Start community-based energy literacy programs to educate residents about energy-saving techniques and available support.

Develop a network of energy advisors within the community that can provide personalized support to households struggling with energy bills.

Integrate energy poverty mitigation into existing social services, ensuring that support for energy is part of holistic assistance programs.

Theme 4: Safe and Protected Natural Spaces

Healthy and intact natural systems are essential for maintaining the health of waterways, moderating temperature, managing extreme storms, and preserving air quality. Protecting Canmore's forests, streams, and wetlands helps preserve the natural beauty and character of the town while also reducing risks from hazards like wildfire, steep creek flooding, and riverine flooding.

GHG impacts: Natural spaces sequester carbon as they grow and develop, so maintaining the health of these ecosystems ensures that carbon sequestration can continue, and that carbon is not released into the atmosphere.

Adaptation impacts: Protecting forests from invasive species, pests, and other hazards helps reduce the risk of wildfire and stabilize slopes. Ensuring that waterways and surrounding areas are healthy can reduce the severity of flooding, as vegetation can slow and reduce overland flooding.

Strategy: Protected Forests and Urban Trees

- Update Land Use Bylaw landscaping requirements and Engineering Design and Construction Guidelines to ensure that reducing wildfire risk and providing shade are priorities in landscape planning and design.

- Update the Urban Forest Management Plan into a broader Natural Asset Strategy and urban tree canopy assessment that reflects climate considerations and integrated hazard management. Include set percentages for canopy targets, and develop a reserve fund for tree plantings in capital projects.
- Ensure that trees are planned and budgeted for as part of transportation capital projects, with a focus on providing shade along active transportation routes.

Strategy: Protected Freshwater

- Update the Bow River Flood Response Plan to include water quality and environmental impacts due to a potential uncontrolled release of contamination resulting from flood damage to the wastewater treatment plant.
- Establish guidelines and regulations for the use of pesticides, particularly in areas where groundwater is vulnerable.
- Develop and implement a salt management plan to reduce the amount of salt needed, and where it is used.

Theme 5: Emergency Preparedness for All

Emergency preparedness is essential for protecting the community before, during, and after a climate emergency. Well-structured emergency plans equip individuals, families, and communities with the knowledge and tools to respond swiftly and efficiently, minimizing the impact of disasters. A coordinated response to reducing risks and vulnerability before an event can help reduce damages, limit the need for evacuations, and improve recovery times. Planning for and practicing emergency responses ensures that all of Canmore knows they are safe and prepared for all that climate change will bring.

GHG impacts: These actions have minimal impacts on total GHG emissions reductions.

Adaptation impacts: These actions can reduce risk of damage, injuries, or even death. They can protect homes and businesses, and can reduce recovery times after an emergency event.

Strategy: Wildfire Management

- Review and update the Canmore Wildfire Mitigation Strategy to include climate change projections, and update the Municipal Emergency Management Plan accordingly.

Implementation

- Develop a regional wildfire management working group to coordinate FireSmarting, grants, and other fire management priorities and activities across the region.
- Integrate and find efficiencies with the mountain pine beetle monitoring and control program with FireSmart tree removal program, and ensure long-term funding for pine beetle management is included in budgeting.
- Complete regular testing of the wildfire incident preparedness plan.
- Develop programs and incentives for property owners to implement Fire Smarting, including potentially offering a Town service to collect material from households. Regularly monitor for continued compliance.
- During extreme heat events and/or poor air quality due to wildfire smoke, ensure the community is aware of designated cooling centres and/or clean air shelters.
- Review and update FireSmart guidelines for new developments in the Land Use Bylaw and explore options for more stringent requirements for both building hardening and landscaping. Advocate to the Province to ensure that the building code is aligned to FireSmart goals.

Strategy: Flooding and Steep Creek Hazard Management

- Continue to fund and implement steep creek debris flow and flood mitigation measures. Ensure that watershed-level hazard and risk assessments are continually updated to align with advances in flood mitigation measures and climate change science and modelling.
- Update restrictions for development in steep creek flood zones to align with ongoing updates to debris flow/flood projections.
- Equip all pump stations and lift stations with back-up power plans and supply to ensure reliable access to water and sanitary services during extreme weather events. This includes access to water for fire suppression in the event of a wildfire.
- Increase flood protection infrastructure for the wastewater treatment plant.
- Complete regular testing of the Steep Creek Emergency Response Plan and Evacuation Plan.

Strategy: Water Security

- Develop a comprehensive drought contingency plan that includes thresholds for triggering water restrictions and emergency water supply measures, as well as a supporting communications plan. Ensure an equity lens is applied to limit potential negative impacts of water restrictions to vulnerable populations and food security.

- Implement key recommendations from the Wellhead Protection Study to reduce potential impacts to drinking water sourced from groundwater.
- Develop an emergency response plan for the potential of wastewater treatment, drinking water treatment, and/or pumping operations being limited or ceased as a result of a flood or wildfire events. Ensure that hazard mitigation strategies are integrated into plans for life cycle replacements and updates to facilities.
- Develop a source water protection plan to holistically evaluate the risks to Canmore's drinking water sources (e.g., wildfire, flooding, impacts from different land use impacts, recreation) and to prioritize mitigations, which may include a Source Water Protection Bylaw.
- Establish a working group to coordinate approaches on water supply management across the region, integrating local expertise.

Strategy: Community and Visitor Safety

- Advocate to the Province to develop an regional working group to monitor the spread of invasive species that could have impacts on ecosystems, infrastructure, and human health.
- Continuously review community-wide evacuation plans and routes, with a focus on neighbourhoods with vulnerable populations and challenging access to designated emergency routes. Support these plans with regular communication, including translation into multiple languages.
- Update the Municipal Emergency Management Plan to more specifically address the potential impacts of climate-related emergencies on visitors and the tourism sector. Continue to collaborate with Tourism Canmore Kananaskis and other representatives from the tourism sector on emergency and overall preparedness.
- Ensure that access to energy supply is integrated into emergency response plans, including the ability to communicate with residents and visitors during an emergency if the power is out.
- Work with Town Communications and Tourism Industry Leaders to develop multilingual communications about climate hazards and emergencies
- Identify and maintain locations within the community to serve as short-term shelters and reception centres during and after events such as floods, steep creek debris flows or floods, or wildfires. Ensure these facilities have access to back-up power supply, and that the community is aware of these options for local shelter during emergencies.

Theme 6: Rethinking Transportation and Mobility

Decarbonizing vehicles is only the first step in a climate-ready transportation system for Canmore. Improving access to transit, and ensuring that active transportation options are accessible to all, reduces the need for private vehicles. Changing how people travel to Canmore, and move about the community, will transform the town into a connected, accessible community.

GHG impacts: The conversion to electric vehicles (EVs) for daily use reduces GHG emissions by 1,520 KtCO_{2e} by 2050. Converting heavy-duty vehicles to low-carbon fuels, and increasing transit and active transportation, result in a further reduction of 520 KtCO_{2e} by 2050.

Adaptation impacts: Reducing the number of internal combustion vehicles on the road improves air quality, and reduces heat generation, particularly in more densely developed neighbourhoods.

Strategy: Electric Vehicles for All

- Require all new residential and commercial developments to be EV ready.
- Continue to install and enable public EV charging stations.
- Develop a long-term fleet strategy for the Town, including bikes and e-bikes, right-sizing vehicles, and transitioning to electric or low-carbon vehicles as they become available.
- Develop an EV charger installation incentive program for existing multi-family and commercial buildings, ensuring that both residents and visitors have access to charging.
- Establish an EV car sharing program to reduce the need for personal vehicle ownership, reduce parking demand in higher density neighbourhoods, and support mode shift goals by providing access to shared vehicles for trips that can't be served by transit, walking, or cycling.
- Support the tourism industry in their efforts to reduce transportation emissions.

Strategy: Active Mobility Across Canmore

- Prioritize the build-out of Canmore's network of safe, accessible, and equitable walking and cycling infrastructure to ensure that every residential area has access to safe and connected mobility paths leading to major destinations like downtown, schools, and shopping.

- Fund an expanded and longer-term electric bike incentive program, and investigate adding non-electric bikes and other mobility aid options.
- Establish pedestrian and cycling zones in high-traffic areas of Canmore, particularly in the downtown core. Complement this with the development of intercept parking.
- Ensure that new and infill development is designed to reduce the need for personal vehicles.

Strategy: Low-Carbon Transit

- Integrate an equity lens in transit planning and ensure that residents who don't own personal vehicles can travel to critical facilities such as the hospital, grocery stores, and pharmacies.
- Continue to expand ROAM service to high-traffic visitor destinations, as well as stops at critical facilities.
- Continue to coordinate with ROAM to transition to electric buses, and install necessary charging infrastructure throughout the town.

Theme 7: Efficient Waste, Water, and Wastewater Management

Protecting essential infrastructure and the services delivered through this infrastructure—including wastewater management and the supply, treatment, and delivery of fresh water—ensures that Canmore remains a healthy and thriving community in all conditions. Loss of these services could require long-term evacuations of the town, so protecting these services is essential. Protecting freshwater sources for Canmore, and for downstream communities ensures everyone has access to safe and reliable drinking water. Reducing the volume of waste produced by the community, as well as the emissions from that waste, helps reduce total community emissions, and these actions keep climate change work front-of-mind for all of the community.

GHG impacts: Rethinking waste production and management, and capturing and using renewable natural gas at the wastewater treatment plant, reduces GHG emissions by 360 KtCO₂e by 2050.

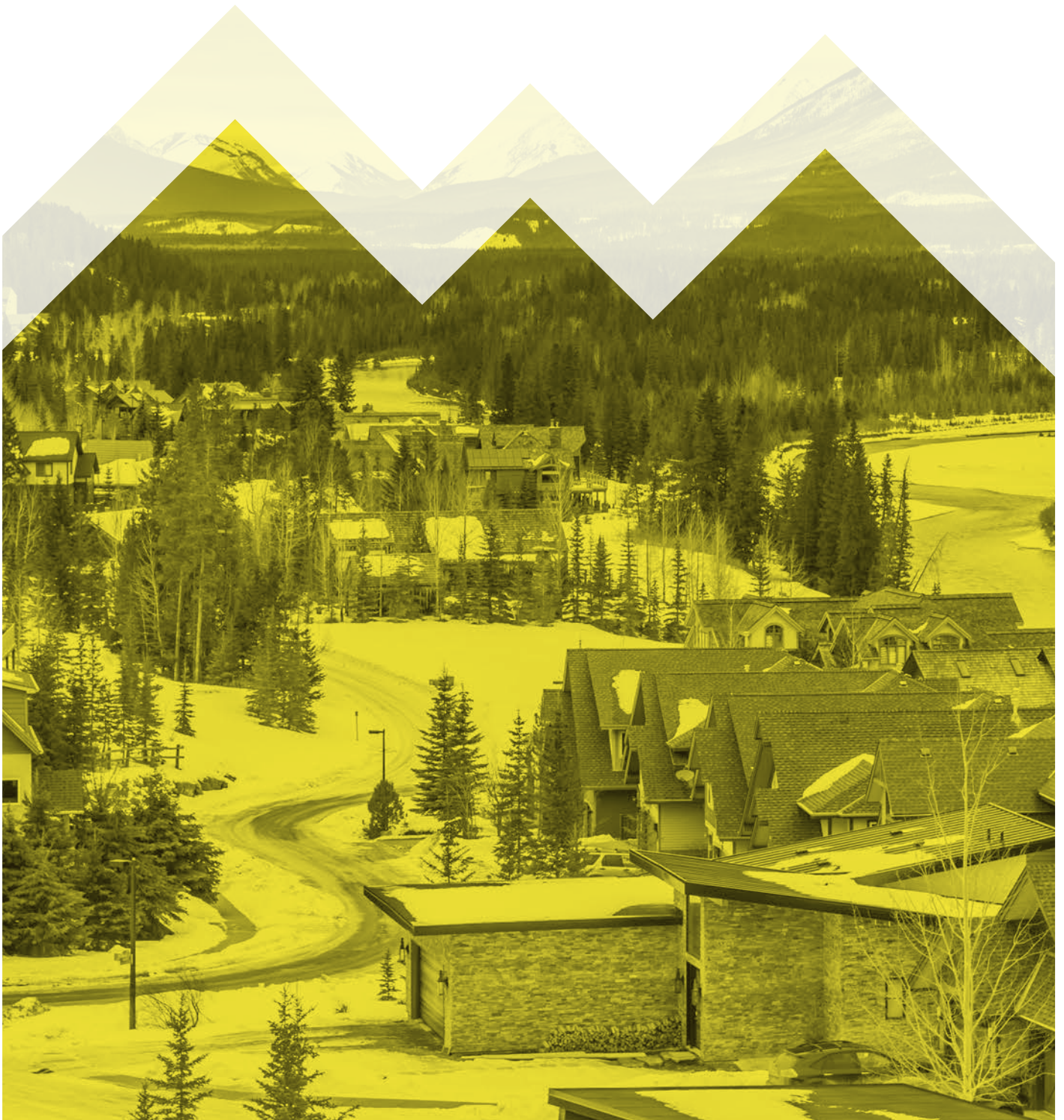
Adaptation impacts: Protecting the wastewater treatment plant, and other water and wastewater infrastructure, from flooding and other climate hazards is critical for ensuring the community is protected, and essential services continue in Canmore in all climate emergencies.

Strategy: Water Conservation and Management

- Reduce water loss, inflow, and infiltration through a formalized and funded system-wide municipal water leak detection program (including closed-circuit TV), continual maintenance, and the Utility Lifecycle Upgrade program.
- Develop an integrated stormwater master plan, which incorporates low-impact development approaches, updated stormwater design criteria, and climate considerations, and explore the option of implementing a stormwater utility rate.
- Develop and implement a water conservation strategy that identifies and targets the sectors with the highest water consumption.
- Install smart water metering systems for all properties to monitor water usage in real-time and identify leaks quickly.

Strategy: Waste Reduction

- Develop and implement a zero waste strategy, with a focus on circular economy. Include actions to both incentivize and require waste diversion, focusing on food waste and other organic material.
- Increase enforcement of the existing commercial food waste diversion bylaw, ensuring that all food-service businesses are actively diverting their food waste.
- Develop a regional construction, renovation and demolition waste strategy that incorporates circular economy principles. The strategy should establish requirements and incentives to maximize the re-use, recycling, and reduction of waste while creating jobs and local economic development opportunities.
- Dispose of municipal solid waste in a landfill with methane gas capture.





A New Chapter in Canmore's Climate Story

As we conclude this Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP), it's important to understand that this is not the end but the beginning of a dynamic, long-term narrative in Canmore's ongoing commitment to sustainability. This plan is not a collection of definite answers but a testament to Canmore's dedication to continuously seek, innovate, and refine its approaches to climate action over the coming decades.

This journey is analogous to venturing into the vast, beautiful, and sometimes daunting wilderness that surrounds our town—each step, though determined, leads us toward discovery. We do not have all the answers today, and perhaps we will face moments of trial and error, but it is our perseverance and collective commitment that will pave the way for meaningful change. This plan is designed to be Canmore's guide, a north star, ensuring that each generation contributes to a legacy of environmental stewardship.

The essence of this plan is about more than achieving metrics; it's about weaving the values of sustainability into the fabric of daily lives and the heart of the community. It's about each resident of Canmore joining in this epic tale, not as passive observers but as active participants who shape the narrative.

We envision a Canmore where every initiative and decision enriches this story, transforming challenges into opportunities for growth and innovation. This document is a call to arms for all—residents, businesses, and policymakers—to embark on this journey together, fostering a town that thrives economically and socially while holding fast to the principles of environmental care.

In moving forward, let this plan remind us that our actions today write tomorrow's chapters. Let us step bravely into this journey, crafting a tale of resilience and hope that will be told for generations to come. Together, let's create a future where Canmore stands as a beacon of sustainable living, proudly setting a course for others to follow.



Annexes

(External documents)**Annex 1:**

Implementation Plan

Annex 2:

Data, Methods, and Assumptions Manual – Mitigation

Annex 3:

Data, Methods, and Assumptions Manual – Adaptation

Annex 4:

Engagement Summary Report

Annex 5:

Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Report

Annex 6:

Adapted Scenario Summary Report

Annex 7:

Carbon Budget

Annex 8:

Canmore's Climate Equity Analysis Report


Annex 9:

Financial Analysis Results



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Town of **CANMORE**

Climate Emergency Action Plan

Implementation Table

May 2024

Theme 1: Municipal Leadership

Strategy: Internal Leadership

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO ₂ e Medium: 10-50 KtCO ₂ e High: 50+ KtCO ₂ e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Adopt an annual carbon budget and implement tools and resources for integrating a climate lens into asset planning, budgeting, council decisions and municipal operations. Empower decision-makers to include GHG reduction and climate change resilience in evaluating and prioritizing projects and policies.	Precursor	\$	\$	0,75	Council, Sustainability, Finance, Municipal Clerks, Human Resources, Corporate Strategic Team	Immediate	Improved climate literacy	TCK	Development of the carbon budget # of departments using a carbon budget to plan and track GHG emissions annually
Expand staff and financial resources to implement climate change mitigation and resilience policies, projects and plans. Ensure that the organization is structured so that climate change remains a strategic internal and public facing priority.	Precursor	\$	NA	0	Corporate Strategic Team, Human Resources, Sustainability	2-5 years	Improved job satisfaction to be part of solution		% of annual projects, plans, and policies that substantially address climate change
Ensure that staff throughout the organization have the capacity and knowledge to meaningfully advance the Town's work on climate change through their roles. Conduct targeted training sessions and workshops for Town staff, focusing on advanced aspects of climate change adaptation and resilience. These sessions should move beyond basic climate change concepts, delving into specific tools, strategies, and resources that staff can practically apply in their roles	Precursor	\$	\$	0,5	Corporate Strategic Team, Human Resources, Sustainability	5-10 years	Improved climate literacy		% of staff involved in training workshops Improvement of staff understanding of climate change and their role in implementing action based on annual staff survey

Theme 1: Municipal Leadership

Strategy: Community Involvement

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Work with community groups to create an online platform for residents to monitor local projects, track progress towards community greenhouse gas reduction targets and adaptation actions, follow municipal initiatives, and stay updated on climate action efforts.	Precursor	\$	\$	0	Partners	2-5 years	Community Connection, Accountability, Transparency, Improved climate literacy	Biosphere, BVCA	# of visitors to online platform
Work with community groups to lead and educate on community-based broader environment and sustainability programming such as waste reduction, cycling promotion, water conservation and air quality.	Precursor	\$	\$	0	Partners	2-5 years	Improves community safety, Improved climate literacy, Community connection	Biosphere, BVCA, BVCAS, TCK	# of groups involved # of community members reached
Launch a comprehensive environmental education strategic plan and program. Focusing on an annual rotational basis - waste and circular economy, water conservation, efficient buildings, EVs transit and active transportation, climate resilience and emergency preparedness. Programming should target specific groups, including but not limited to schools, businesses, and households, with extra attention to equity deserving communities (multi-lingual), to increase awareness of Town environmental programs.	Precursor	\$	\$	1	SWS, Sustainability, Engineering, Protective Services, Public Works - Utilities, Communication	2-5 years	Refute misinformation, Increase buy-in, Improved climate literacy	Biosphere, Schools	# of educational events held #of participants/visitors

Theme 2: Resilient, Efficient Buildings

Strategy: Municipal Climate Leadership

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Accelerate and expand renewable and low carbon energy efforts on municipal buildings and infrastructure (e.g. continued rooftop solar, solar parking lot canopies, air- and ground source heat pumps, district energy, waste heat recovery, etc.). Evaluate the cost and GHG impact of carbon offsets and virtual power purchase agreements compared to investing in local installations.	Low	\$\$\$	\$\$\$	1	Facilities and Public Works/ Sustainability/ Communications / Engineering	Ongoing	Job creation, Leadership credibility, Reduced operating costs, Improved resilience in power outages, Improved air quality		# of solar PVs installed on municipal buildings Installation capacity achieved
Dedicate staff capacity to continuously monitoring energy consumption in municipal facilities and water and wastewater infrastructure and identifying and implementing low cost/no cost opportunities for energy savings.	Low	\$	\$\$	1	Facilities and Public Works	2-5 years	Leadership credibility, Reduced operating costs, Improved air quality	MCCAC - Grant Funding	# FTE working on energy efficiency
Ensure that retrofits or replacements of municipal facilities result in a significant reduction in energy demand, with a long-term goal of net-zero building portfolio.	Precursor	\$	\$\$	1	Facilities and Public Works	Ongoing	Reduced operating costs, Improved air quality, Job creation, Improved indoor comfort, Improved resilience in power outages		% municipal buildings retrofit Total energy consumption of municipal building portfolio
Leverage municipal retrofits, renewable energy projects, and highly energy efficient new buildings to act as demonstration projects to share learnings and successes with the community, demonstrate feasibility, and inspire action. Consider housing a community organization or service in a green municipal building to provide sustainability education for residents and visitors.	Precursor	\$	\$	0,25	Facilities, Communications	5-10 years	Community connection, Improved climate literacy, Leadership credibility	Biosphere, Developers, Builders	# of community members reached

Theme 2: Resilient, Efficient Buildings

Strategy: Efficient and Resilient New Buildings

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO ₂ e Medium: 10-50 KtCO ₂ e High: 50+ KtCO ₂ e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Advocate for building labelling/disclosure of energy performance in both new and existing construction. In advance of a higher level regulatory regime, explore mechanisms to require or incentivize building labelling locally.	Precursor	\$	\$	0	Sustainability with Planning Support	5-10 years	Improved climate literacy, Reduced operating costs, Improved air quality		# of real estate postings with energy ratings
Develop mechanisms to transition new and existing buildings away from natural gas, including incentives for air and ground source heat pumps for space and water heating and induction stoves. Consider options to discourage or restrict natural gas connections in new buildings and neighbourhoods.	High	\$\$\$	\$	0,25	Engineering with Sustainability and Planning Support, Legal support	2-5 years	Improved air quality, Space cooling during heat events, Job creation	BOWDA	Total community natural gas consumption
Offer incentives to developers to build or retrofit housing that meets high energy efficiency standards, with a focus on providing quality, resilient housing with low ongoing energy costs for lower-income households.	Precursor	\$\$\$	\$\$	1	Sustainability and Planning and Development	5-10 years	Reduced operating costs, Improved air quality, Improved resilience during power outages, Reduced energy poverty	BOWDA	# of retrofits annually
Work with community groups to offer educational sessions to builders on net-zero design principles and funding opportunities.	Precursor	\$	\$	0,25	Partners	2-5 years	Improved relationships with key partners, Reduced costs for heating/cooling homes	Biosphere, BVGEC, BOWDA	# of participants
Advocate for the Province to accelerate adoption of the higher tiers in the 2020 National Building Code and National Energy Code for Buildings, or any subsequent Codes, so that all new buildings are both highly energy efficient and more resilient to extreme weather.	High	\$\$	\$	0	Planning and Development/ CST	2-5 years	Reduced operating costs, Improved air quality, Improved resilience during power outages, Reduced energy poverty		Advocacy campaign initiated
As provincial flood mapping is updated, consider additional measures to restrict new development and increase minimum floor elevation levels in Bow River floodplains aligned with more severe flood return periods.	NA	\$	\$	0	Engineering / Planning and Development	2-5 years	Reputation protection, Reduced community vulnerability	BOWDA, Council Direction	# of plans updated with new flood mapping

Theme 2: Resilient, Efficient Buildings

Strategy: Efficient and Resilient New Buildings (continued from previous table)

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO ₂ e Medium: 10-50 KtCO ₂ e High: 50+ KtCO ₂ e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Explore mechanisms to require and/or encourage lifecycle assessments for new buildings so that developers and builders are motivated to minimize the overall environmental impact, from construction to end-of-life.	NA	\$	\$	0,5	Planning/ Engineering/ Sustainability	5-10 years	Reduction in waste production and management, Job creation, Stimulating local industry	BOWDA	# of lifecycle assessments completed # of developers involved in programs
Explore options for using materials with lower embodied carbon for municipal infrastructure projects and buildings (e.g., warm-mix asphalt, recycled aggregates, low carbon concrete, wood fibre insulation, cross-laminated timber, etc.)	Medium	\$	\$	0	Engineering	2-5 years	Job creation, Stimulating local industry		# of projects using lower carbon materials
Identify and remove existing regulatory and other barriers to high-efficiency building construction and renewable and low carbon energy sources, including solar, ground and air source heating, battery storage, etc.	High	\$\$\$	\$	0,1	Planning and Development, Municipal Enforcement	Immediate	Reduces vulnerability in the Community		# of builders and developers engaged # of policies or regulations updated
In advance of provincial building codes requiring 'net-zero-energy ready' construction, incentivize developers and builders to aim for 'passive house', 'net-zero' or 'net-zero ready' standards for new buildings. Promote the co-benefits of more efficient construction, for example, high-performance air filtration providing improved indoor air quality and occupant comfort during extreme heat and wildfire smoke events.	Precursor	\$\$	\$	0,25	Planning and Development/ Sustainability	Immediate	Increase resilience, affordability, cost recovery, increase equity, business continuity	BOWDA	# of builders and developers engaged # of buildings constructed with low-carbon incentive programs
Require new developments/subdivisions to design lot and roof orientations that enable the future installation of solar PV.	Precursor	\$	\$	0	Planning and Development/ Sustainability	5-10 years	Reduced costs for heating/cooling, Reduced energy poverty, Improved resilience during power outages		# of new construction units with orientation considerations

Theme 2: Resilient, Efficient Buildings

Strategy: Efficient and Resilient Residential Retrofits

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Advocate to the provincial and federal government for a community-scale deep energy retrofit program for existing residential and commercial buildings, with an initial priority on reducing energy poverty.	High	\$\$\$	\$\$	1	Sustainability with Support from Planning and Engineering	2-5 years	Reduced energy poverty, Increased affordability	BOWDA	Advocacy campaign initiated
Extend and expand the current four-year pilot of the residential Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) and/or develop additional measures for financing and incentives for building energy retrofits. In addition, look to implement CEIP for the commercial sector.	High	\$\$\$	\$	0,25	Sustainability	5-10 years	Reduced costs for heating/cooling, Reduced energy demand, Job creation, Improved air quality, Improved affordability	Biosphere BILD AB CHBA	# of participants in the CEIP
Expand and/or develop a longer term program for low income households to receive free energy efficiency upgrades aimed at reducing energy poverty (e.g., Home Upgrades Program). Identify strategies to assist in retrofitting homes for tenants/landlords, with a focus on low-income households.	High	\$\$\$	\$	0	Sustainability	2-5 years	Increased affordability, Improved accessibility	Biosphere	# of households receiving upgrades # of rental properties upgraded
Collaborate with other organizations (e.g. educational, utilities, etc.) to host public demonstrations of retrofit projects to share information about results and payback.	Precursor	\$	\$	0,1	Partners	2-5 years	Community connection and involvement	Biosphere, BVCA	# of community members reached

Theme 2: Resilient, Efficient Buildings

Strategy: Efficient and Resilient Commercial and Institutional Retrofits

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Extend and expand the current four-year pilot of the residential Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) and/or develop additional measures for financing and incentives for building energy retrofits. In addition, look to implement CEIP for the commercial sector.	High	\$\$\$	\$	0,25	Sustainability	5-10 years	Reduced costs for heating/cooling, Reduced energy demand, Job creation, Improved air quality, Improved affordability	Biosphere BILD AB CHBA	# of participants in the CEIP

Theme 3: Clean, Resilient Energy

Strategy: Renewable, Reliable Electricity

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Expand and accelerate current program and incentives to increase renewable and low carbon energy systems for all new and existing residential, commercial, and institutional, buildings (e.g., solar rooftop installations, parking lot solar canopies, ground and air source heat pumps, battery storage, etc.). Advocate for requirements for renewable energy in new construction.	High	\$\$\$	NA	0	Sustainability	Ongoing	Job creation, reputation, Decreased energy costs for the community, Decreased operating costs for residential buildings	BOWDA, Solar AB, AAA Biosphere BVGEC	# of participants in incentive programs # kW of solar capacity installed
Set a goal for local solar energy to account for at least 20% of the community's electricity mix for buildings by 2030.	High	\$\$\$	\$	0,25	Sustainability/ Partners	5-10 years	Job creation, Improved air quality, Reduced heating/cooling costs		# kW of solar capacity installed
Expand community programs that allow residents and businesses to subscribe to solar and other renewable energy at a reduced cost without requiring installation on their property.	High	\$\$	\$	0,25	Sustainability/ Partners	5-10 years	Improved air quality, Improved equity and inclusivity, Reduced energy costs	Biosphere BVGEC	# of participants in incentive programs # kW of solar capacity installed

Theme 3: Clean, Resilient Energy

Strategy: Emergency Energy Management

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Advocate for investment into Alberta's electricity grid to prepare for increasing extreme weather events, such as isolating and managing outages more effectively via 'smart grid' systems.	NA	\$	NA	0	CST/Council	2-5 years	Improved resilience in power outages		Advocacy campaign initiated
Advocate for a voluntary energy demand response program where residents and businesses can opt- in to reduce energy usage during peak times in exchange for reduced utility rates or other incentives.	Precursor	\$	\$	0,25	Sustainability/ Partners	5-10 years	Reduced energy costs, Reduced need for additional electrical infrastructure, Improved air quality	Biosphere BVGEC	Advocacy campaign initiated

Theme 3: Clean, Resilient Energy

Strategy: Reduce Energy Poverty

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Advocate to the Province for a energy bill assistance program so that no household spends more than a certain percentage of their income on energy.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Council, Corporate Strategic Team	5-10 years	Reduced energy poverty, Improved equity and accessibility		Advocacy campaign initiated
Integrate energy poverty mitigation into existing social services, ensuring that support for energy is part of holistic assistance programs.	Precursor	\$	\$	0,25	Sustainability/CSD	2-5 years	Improved accessibility		# of programs that integrate energy poverty support
Work with community groups to start community- based energy literacy programs to educate residents about energy- saving techniques and available support. Develop a network of energy advisors within the community that can provide personalized support to households struggling with energy bills.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Partners/CSD	2-5 years	Community Connection, Community Ownership, Affordability, Inclusivity	Biosphere, BVCA	# of community members reached

Theme 4: Safe and Protected Natural Spaces

Strategy: Protected Forests and Urban Trees

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential	Total Cost of Investment	Municipal Cost Details	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
	Low: 0-10 KtCO _{2e} Medium: 10-50 KtCO _{2e} High: 50+ KtCO _{2e}	\$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	\$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+						
Update the Urban Forest Management Plan into a broader Natural Asset Strategy and urban tree canopy assessment that reflects climate considerations and integrated hazard management. Include set percentage for canopy targets, and develop reserve fund for tree plantings in capital projects.	NA	\$	\$	0	Parks Planner	2-5 years	Reduced heat in urban areas, Improved air quality, Improved water quality, Human health benefits, Tourism benefits	Alberta Parks	Updated Strategy developed
Update Land Use Bylaw landscaping requirements and Engineering Design and Construction Guidelines to ensure that reducing wildfire risk and providing shade are priorities in landscape planning and design.	NA	\$	\$	0	Parks Planner, Engineering	Immediate	Community connections spaces, Parks become more enjoyable, Reduced water need, Improved equity and affordability, Improved awareness of hazards, Reduced building maintenance costs		# of bylaws and guidelines updated
Ensure that trees are planned and budgeted for as part of transportation capital projects, with a focus on providing shade along active transportation routes.	Low	\$	\$\$	0	Parks Planner, Engineering	Immediate	Supports mode-shift, Cooler urban spaces, Improved wildlife habitat, Improved community health		# of trees planted

Theme 4: Safe and Protected Natural Spaces

Strategy: Protected Freshwater

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Update the Bow River Flood Response Plan to include water quality and environmental impacts due to a potential uncontrolled release of contamination resulting from flood damage to the wastewater treatment plant.	NA	\$	\$	0	Protective Services/ Engineering/Public Works-Utility/ EPCOR	Immediate	Reputation Management, Decreased insurance costs, Long term financial benefit (prevention is cheaper than response/recover), Prevent costly contamination for downstream communities,	EPCOR	Plan updated
Establish guidelines and regulations for the use of pesticides, particularly in areas where groundwater is vulnerable (e.g., permissible pesticide types, application methods, buffer zones around water bodies, and restricted use near groundwater recharge areas).	NA	\$	\$	0,1	Parks - municipal land Protective Services/Parks/ Utilities Planning/ Engineering - Private land (Bylaw)	5-10 years	Improved human health, Improved air quality, Improved water quality		Volume of pesticides used by Town # of regulations developed
Develop and implement a Salt Management Plan. Consider strategies to reduce the amount of salt required to clear sidewalks, paths and roads and how and where it is applied in proximity to sensitive ecosystem, habitats or waterbodies.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Streets and Roads	Immediate	Improved wildlife habitat, Improved water quality		Plan developed and implemented

Theme 5: Emergency Preparedness for All

Strategy: Wildfire Management

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Review and update the Canmore Wildfire Mitigation Strategy on a regular basis (e.g., every 5 years) to ensure that it incorporates the latest modelling of wildfire risk, including climate change projections. Ensure that the Municipal Emergency Management Plan is updated accordingly.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Protective Services (EM), with support from Fire Services/ Sustainability	Ongoing	Reputation Management, Decreased insurance costs, Long term financial benefit (prevention is cheaper than response/recover), Job creation, Decreased property damage, Increased community safety, Increases relationships with key partners	Contractors - Expertise	Plan updated
Complete regular testing of the wildfire incident preparedness plan (every 1-3 years).	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Protective Services (EM), Fire Services, All Town Departments	Ongoing	Reputation Management, Decreased insurance costs, Long term financial benefit (prevention is cheaper than response/recover), Job creation, Decreased property damage, Increased community safety, Increases relationships with key partners	CEMA, AB Wildfire, Other regional partners	# of tests completed
Develop a regional wildfire management working group to coordinate FireSmarting, grants, and other fire management priorities and activities across the region.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Protective Services, Fire Services, Sustainability	Immediate	Improved relationships with key partners, Improved resilience		# of meetings # of groups involved in working group
Develop programs and incentives for property owners to implement Fire Smarting, including the potential of offering a Town service to collect material from households. Regularly monitor for continued compliance.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Protective Services (EM) support Fire Services, Sustainability,, Communications	2-5 years	Decreased costs in emergencies, Reduced need for evacuations, Improved resilience		# of recipients of incentives # of participants in programs
Ensure all drinking water and wastewater facilities (e.g., lift stations, pumphouses, etc.), are retrofitted with fire resistant cladding and roofing, starting with those that have been identified for near-term life-cycle maintenance and updates.	NA	\$\$	\$	0,25	Public Works - Utility, Support from Sustainability	2-5 years	Decreased costs in emergencies, Improved resilience	EPCOR	# of retrofits completed

Theme 5: Emergency Preparedness for All

Strategy: Wildfire Management (continued from previous table)

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
During extreme heat events and/or poor air quality due to wildfire smoke, ensure that the community is aware of designated cooling centres and/or clean air shelters.	NA	\$	NA	0	Protective Services/Facilities	Ongoing	Improved safety and wellbeing, Improved equity/inclusion, Reputation improvement		Improved awareness of shelters in community surveys
Review and update FireSmart guidelines for new developments in the Land Use Bylaw and explore options for more stringent requirements for both building hardening and landscaping. Advocate to the Province to ensure that the building code is aligned to FireSmart goals.	NA	\$	\$	0,1	Planning and Development, Public Works - Parks Planner,	2-5 years	Decreased costs in emergencies, Reduced need for evacuations, Improved resilience		# of guidelines reviewed
Work with the Province to develop a region- wide FireSmart program, exploring broad landscape FireSmarting and Fireguards, with scheduled monitoring to ensure continued compliance with FireSmart regulations.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Protective Services (EM) support Fire Services, Sustainability, Public Works (Park Planner), Communications	Immediate	Decreased costs in emergencies, Improved human-wildlife coexistence, Supports tourism, Supports biodiversity and wildlife	Province of AB, KID, MD Bighorn, Banff, Stony Nakoda, Parks Canada	Working group established
Integrate and find efficiencies with the mountain pine beetle monitoring and control program with FireSmart tree removal program, ensuring long- term funding for pine beetle management is included in budgeting.	NA	\$	NA	0	Parks / Fire/ Protective Services	Ongoing	Decreased cost to rate payers, Improved air quality, Improved community safety, Recreational benefits, Increased biodiversity and wildlife habitat	"MD Big Horn Alberta Forestry Kananaskis Improvement District Biosphere"	# hectares of forest treated for beetles
Develop a Pest Management Plan that reflects the impacts and changes to local ecosystems due to climate change and update it every 5 years.	NA	\$	\$	0	Protective Services, Parks/ Parks Planner, Streets and Roads, Sustainability	2-5 years	Improved resilience, Improved community safety, Improved environmental quality	Calgary Region Municipal Wildlife Group, Town of Banff, MD Big Horn	Plan developed and implemented

Theme 5: Emergency Preparedness for All

Strategy: Flooding and Steep Creek Hazard Management

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Continue to fund and implement steep creek debris flow and flood mitigation measures. Ensure that watershed-level hazard and risk assessments are continually updated to align with advances in flood mitigation measures and climate change science and modelling (at least every 10 years). Update restrictions for development in steep creek flood zones to align with ongoing updates to debris flow/flood projections.	NA	\$\$\$	\$\$\$	0	Engineering	Ongoing	Reputation Management, Decreased insurance costs, Long term financial benefit (prevention is cheaper than response/recover), Job creation, Decreased property damage, Increased community safety, Increases relationships with key partners		# of creeks mitigated \$ spent on mitigation activities
Equip all pump station and lift stations with back up power plans and supply to ensure reliable access to water and sanitary services during extreme weather events. This includes access to water for fire suppression in the event of a wildfire.	NA	\$\$	\$\$\$	0,25	Facilities and PW Utilities- EPCOR	Immediate	Tourism benefits, Decreased cost of disaster support, Faster re-entry post incident, Improved community safety	EPCOR, TransAlta	# of retrofits completed
Complete regular testing of the steep creek emergency response plan and evacuation plan (every 1-3 years).	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Protective Services/ Engineering	ongoing	Reputation Management, Decreased insurance costs, Long term financial benefit (prevention is cheaper than response/recover), Job creation, Decreased property damage, Increased community safety, Increases relationships with key partners		# of tests completed
Increase flood protection infrastructure for the wastewater treatment plant.	NA	\$\$	\$\$\$	0	Public Works - Utilities with Support from Engineering	2-5 years	Improved resilience, Long-term financial benefit, Reduced property damage, Improved community safety	EPCOR, Province of AB, Contractors/ Consultants	Flood protection measures constructed

Theme 5: Emergency Preparedness for All

Strategy: Water Security

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential	Total Cost of Investment	Municipal Cost Details	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
	Low: 0-10 KtCO ₂ e Medium: 10-50 KtCO ₂ e High: 50+ KtCO ₂ e	\$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	\$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+						
Implement key recommendations from the Wellhead Protection Study to reduce potential impacts to drinking water sourced from groundwater (e.g., spill response plans, stormwater management standards, regulating high risk land uses, drywell rehabilitation, etc.)	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Public Works, Engineering, Protective Services, Planning and Development	Immediate	Improved environmental quality, Improved resilience	BOWDA, Land Owners	# of recommendations implemented
Examine drywell infrastructure and design guidelines to determine rehab and future install requirements to minimize pluvial flooding and ensure adequate stormwater quality treatment in wellhead protection area.	NA	\$	\$	0,5	Engineering with support Public Works-Utilities/ Street and Roads	2-5 years	Improved environmental quality, Improved resilience	EPCOR	# of guidelines reviewed and updated
Develop a comprehensive drought contingency plan that includes thresholds for triggering water restrictions and emergency water supply measures, as well as a supporting communications plan. Ensure an equity lens is applied to limit potential negative impacts of water restrictions to vulnerable populations and food security.	NA	\$	\$	0	Public Works and Communications and Protective Services	Immediate	Improved affordability of water, Reduced costs for water treatment, Improved resilience to drought	Inform: Community Social Development, Businesses (laundry, brewery, etc.)	Plan developed and implemented
Develop an Emergency Response Plan for the potential of wastewater treatment, drinking water treatment, and/or pumping operations being limited or ceased as a result of a flood or wildfire events. Ensure that hazard mitigation strategies are integrated into plans for life cycle replacements and updates to facilities.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Protective Service / Engineering/ Public Works	2-5 years	Improved resilience, Long-term financial benefit	EPCOR	Plan developed and implemented
Develop a Source Water Protection Plan to holistically evaluate the risks to Canmore's drinking water sources (e.g., wildfire, flooding, impacts from different land use impacts, recreation, etc.) and to prioritize mitigations, which may include a Source Water Protection Bylaw.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	Public Works and Engineering	2-5 years	Reduction in water treatment costs, Improved environmental stewardship	TransAlta	Plan developed and implemented
Establish a working group to coordinate approaches on water supply management across the region, integrating local expertise.	NA	\$	\$	0,25	PW Utilities, support from Sustainability	2-5 years	Improved relationships with key players, Improved resilience	TransAlta, Bow River Basin Council	# of meetings # of groups involved in working group

Theme 5: Emergency Preparedness for All

Strategy: Community and Visitor Safety

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Continuously review community-wide evacuation plans and routes, with a focus on neighbourhoods with vulnerable populations and challenging access to designated emergency routes. Support these plans with regular communication, including translation into multiple languages.	NA	\$	\$	0	Protective Services /Communication / Engineering /	Ongoing	Improved public trust, Improved accessibility, Increased inclusivity	RCMP, U of A / UBC Research project data will help inform this	# of plans reviewed # of people reached through communication channels
Update the Municipal Emergency Management Plan to more specifically address the potential impacts of climate-related emergencies on visitors and the tourism sector. Continue to collaborate with Tourism Canmore Kananaskis and other representatives from the tourism sector on emergency and overall preparedness.	NA	\$	\$	0,1	Protective Services /Communication	Ongoing	Reputation Management, Decreasing insurance costs, Long-term financial benefit (prevention is cheaper than response/recover), Job creation, Decreased property damage, Increased community safety, Improved relationships with key partners	TCK	Plan updated
Advocate to the Province to develop an regional working group to monitor the spread of invasive species that could have impacts on ecosystems, infrastructure as well as human health (e.g., weeds, pests, vectors for diseases such as ticks and mosquitos, etc.).	NA	\$	\$	0,1	Parks Planner / CST /Council with support from Parks, Sustainability and Communications	2-5 years	Improved relationships with key partners, Improved community safety	Local Health Authority, Province of AB, Banff, MD Big Horn, Parks Canada, TCK	Advocacy campaign initiated
Equip all radio towers with back up power plans and supply, and any other required mitigations to ensure that radio communication is available in the event of an emergency. Explore a similar measure for cellular equipment.	NA	\$	\$\$\$	0	IT, Protective Services, Fire Services	Immediate	Increased resilience, Reduced impact of emergencies	EPCOR, FORTIS, TransAlta	# of towers equipped
Ensure that access to energy supply is integrated into emergency response plans, including the ability to communicate with residents and visitors during an emergency if the power is out.	NA	\$	\$	0,1	Protective Services	Ongoing	Reputation Management, Decreasing insurance costs, Long-term financial benefit (prevention is cheaper than response/recover), Job creation, Decreased property damage, Increased community safety, Improved relationships with key partners	TransAlta, Fortis, AltaLink	# of ERPs updated

Theme 5: Emergency Preparedness for All

Strategy: Community and Visitor Safety (continued from previous table)

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Work with community partners to determine which facilities in Canmore should be defined as 'critical infrastructure' during emergency events and ensure that these can continue to operate (e.g., generators and/or batteries for back up power at the hospital).	NA	\$	\$\$\$	0	Facilities / Public Works	5-10 years	Services and business continuity, Resident satisfaction, Improved resilience, Improved community independence		# of community partners involved
Identify and maintain locations within the community to serve as short- term shelters and reception centres during and after events such as floods, steep creek debris flows or floods, or wildfires. Ensure these facilities have access to back up power supply and that the community is aware of these options for local shelter during emergencies.	NA	\$	\$	0	Protective Services, Facilities, Arts and Culture, Economic Development, Community Social Development	Immediate	Tourism benefits, Improved relationship building within the community, Community connection	Public and Private Partners	% of neighbourhoods with shelters identified
Work with Town Communications and tourism industry leaders to develop multilingual communications about climate hazards and emergencies, such as air quality, extreme heat, etc.	NA	\$	\$	0	Protective Services /Communication	Ongoing	Community connection, Improved resilience	Biosphere	# of communications materials developed # of people reached through communication channels
Review the Engineering Design and Construction Guidelines to identify opportunities to enhance multi- hazard protection, including FireSmart, drought management, wildlife safety, etc.	NA	\$	\$	0,1	Engineering	2-5 years	Improved resilience, Job creation	Contractor support, BOWDA, Province of AB	# of plans reviewed

Theme 6: Rethinking Transportation and Mobility

Strategy: Electric Vehicles for All

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Require all new residential and commercial developments to be 100% EV ready (building in the required electrical infrastructure in order to simplify the installation of a future EV charger) and continue to install and enable public charging.	Precursor		\$	0	Sustainability and Planning and Development, Facilities	Immediate	Increased equity, Increased visitors using EV, Improved air quality	BOWDA	# of public chargers installed # of new development with EV charging
Develop a long term fleet strategy for right sizing, incorporating bikes or e-bikes into municipal fleet, and transitioning to electric vehicles as options become available.	Low	\$\$	\$\$\$	0	Fleet Service, with support from Facilities and Engineering	Immediate	Reduced operating and maintenance costs, Improved air quality, Reduced vehicle noise	Fortis	Strategy developed and implemented
Develop and deliver a community-wide anti-idling program to support the existing by-law (e.g., signage and education, enforcement approach, target locations, tactics, municipal fleet idling policy, etc.)	Low	\$	\$	0,5	Municipal Enforcement, Communication, Streets and Roads, Sustainability, Engineering	2-5 years	Reduced noise, Improved air quality		# of community members reached
Develop an EV charger installation incentive program for existing multi-family and commercial buildings, ensuring that both residents and visitors have access to charging.	Precursor	\$\$	\$	0	Sustainability	2-5 years	Improved affordability, Reduced traffic, Reduced parking demand	TCK CHLA	# of incentives offered
Establish an EV car sharing program to reduce the need for personal vehicle ownership, reduce parking demand in higher density neighbourhoods, and support mode shift goals by providing access to shared vehicles for trips that can't be served by transit, walking or cycling.	Medium	\$	\$\$	1	Sustainability	2-5 years	Improved air quality, Improved affordability, Reduced traffic congestion, Reduced traffic noise, Reduced parking demand	Biosphere	# of personal vehicles owned in Canmore
Support the local tourism industry in their efforts to reduce the impact to and prepare for climate change (e.g., Tourism Canmore Kananaskis Regenerative Tourism Framework working group)	Precursor	\$	\$	0	TCK	5-10 years	Job creation, Tourism, Reputation, Community, Economic Benefit	TCK Canmore Hotel and Lodging Association	Working group established

Theme 6: Rethinking Transportation and Mobility

Strategy: Active Mobility Across Canmore

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Ensure that new and infill development are designed and built to reduce the need for personal vehicles. Update key policy and strategic documents (e.g., Land Use Bylaw, Integrated Transportation Plan, Integrated Parking Management Plan, Engineering Design Construction Guidelines) to enable this.	Precursor	\$	\$	0,2	Engineering / Planning	Immediate	Community connection, Tourism and economy, Increase space and ability to mode shift, Inclusivity, Improved air quality, Improved accessibility	BOWDA	# of policies and strategies updated
Establish pedestrian and cycling zones in high- traffic areas of Canmore, particularly in the downtown core. Complement this with the development of intercept parking.	Low	\$	\$	0	Engineering, Planning and Development	Immediate	Improved inclusivity, Improved air quality, Reduced traffic noise, Reduced traffic congestion	BIA, TCK, BOWDA	# of km of car-free zones
Fund an expanded and longer-term electric bike incentive program, indexed to income. Consider adding non-electric bikes, and other mobility aids.	Low	\$\$	\$	0	Sustainability, Community Social Development, Engineering	Immediate	Increased accessibility, Community wellbeing, Inclusivity		# of incentives issues
Pilot an e- bike or e- scooter sharing system for residents and visitors to use for short trips around town.	Low	\$	\$	0,1	Ec Dev with support from Engineering, Sustainability, Communication, Municipal Enforcement	2-5 years	Increase health and fitness, Enjoyment of natural spaces, Reduced traffic congestion, Improved accessibility, Enhanced tourism	BIA, CHLA, TCK, Chamber, etc.	Pilot program launched
Prioritize the build- out of Canmore's network of safe, accessible, and equitable walking and cycling infrastructure to ensure that every residential area has access to safe and connected mobility paths leading to major destinations like downtown, schools, and shopping.	Precursor	\$\$\$	\$\$\$	0	Engineering	Ongoing	Enhances worker and community safety, Improved lifestyle, Decreased transportation costs, Health benefits, Decreased public infrastructure costs, Decrease emissions and noise, Increase air quality, Increased mental health, Improved tourism, Economic driver, Increased resident satisfaction, Increased accessibility	BOWDA	# of km of walking and cycling infrastructure constructed

Theme 6: Rethinking Transportation and Mobility

Strategy: Low-Carbon Transit

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential			Municipal Cost Details	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs	
	Low: 0-10 KtCO ₂ e	Medium: 10-50 KtCO ₂ e	High: 50+ KtCO ₂ e								Total Cost of Investment
Update current transit mode share targets to align with area development plans, so that neighbourhoods with higher density, services, and identified need have more ambitious targets for transit ridership (at least 15% mode share attributed to transit).	Precursor			\$	\$	0,2	Engineering / Planning	Immediate	Community Connection, Inclusivity, Affordability	BOWDA, BVRTC	# of targets updated
Continue to coordinate with ROAM Transit to transition to electric buses, and install necessary charging infrastructure throughout town.	Medium			\$	\$	0	Engineering	Ongoing	Improved air quality, Improved accessibility, Improved affordability of transportation, Noise reduction	BVRTC	# of chargers installed
Continue to expand ROAM Transit service to high traffic visitor destinations.	High			\$\$\$	\$	0,5	Engineering, Recreation	Immediate	Inclusivity, Improved accessibility, Improved air quality	BVRTC, Province of AB, TCK	# of destinations accessible by transit
Integrate an equity lens in transit planning and ensure that residents who don't own personal vehicles can travel to critical facilities such as the hospital, grocery stores, pharmacies, etc.	Precursor			\$	\$	0,5	Engineering, Community Social Development	Immediate	Increase accessibility, Improved community wellbeing, Inclusivity		# of policies and strategies updated with equity lens

Theme 7: Efficient Waste, Water, and Wastewater Management

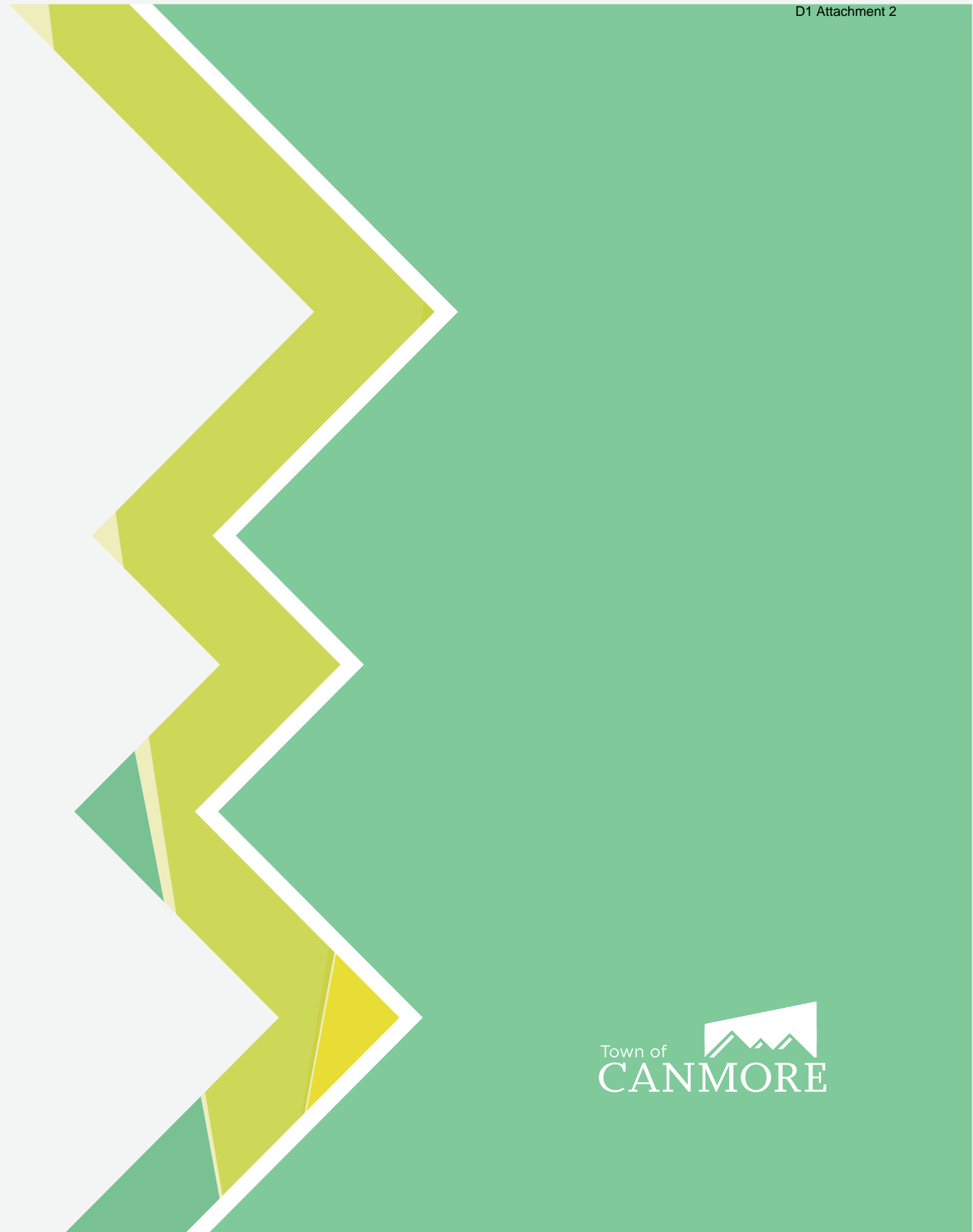
Strategy: Water Conservation and Management

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Reduce water loss, inflow, and infiltration, through a formalized and funded system-wide municipal water leak detection program (including close-circuit TV), continual maintenance, and Utility Lifecycle Upgrade program.	Low	\$\$	\$\$\$	0,5	Public Works budget, Engineering leading	Ongoing	Cost saving due to early detection and maintenance, Decreased costs for users in long run	EPCOR	Volume of water treated in municipal system
Develop an Integrated Stormwater Master Plan, which incorporates Low Impact Development approaches, updated stormwater design criteria, updated Intesity Duration and Frequency (IDF) curves, and explore the option of implementing a stormwater utility rate.	NA	\$	\$	0,1	Engineering with Planning Support	2-5 years	Improved water quality, Cost savings in water treatment, Improved urban habitat, Reduced urban temperatures	BOWDA	# of LIDs installed Stormwater study completed
Develop and implement a water conservation strategy that identifies and targets the sectors with the highest water consumption.	Low	\$	\$	0,25	Public Works - Utilities and Communications and Sustainability	Immediate	Cost savings in water treatment, Improved resilience to drought	Consultants/ summer students	# of high consumers reached
Ensure strategies to reduce energy demand and integrate renewables and/or efficient technologies such as waste heat capture are included in any updgrades or retrofits for the wastewater treatment plant upgrades.	Low	\$\$	\$\$\$	0	Public Works - Utilities, Sustainability, Facilities	Immediate	Reduction in building operational costs, Improved air quality	Consultants/ EPCOR	Volume of water treated in municipal system
Install smart water metering systems for all properties to monitor water usage in real- time and identify leaks quickly.	Low	\$\$	\$\$	0	Public Works - Utilities	5-10 years	Cost savings in water treatment, Improved resilience to drought		# of smart meters installed

Theme 7: Efficient Waste, Water, and Wastewater Management

Strategy: Waste Reduction

Action description	GHG Reduction Potential Low: 0-10 KtCO2e Medium: 10-50 KtCO2e High: 50+ KtCO2e	Total Cost of Investment \$: \$0-\$10M \$\$: \$10M - \$30M \$\$\$: \$30M+	Municipal Cost Details \$: \$0-\$100k \$\$: \$100k - \$1M \$\$\$: \$1M+	Municipal Resource Requirements (FTE)	Lead Department	Timeline	Co-Benefits	Partners	KPIs
Increase enforcement of the existing commercial food waste diversion bylaw, ensuring that all food-service businesses are actively diverting their food waste.	Low	\$	\$\$	1	SWS, Enforcement	Immediate	Community connection, Compost giveaway to community members, Reduced food costs through reduction in waste		Diversion rate
Develop a regional Construction, Renovation and Demolition Waste Strategy incorporating circular economy principles. The strategy should establish requirements and incentives to maximize the re-use, recycling, and reduction of waste while creating jobs and local economic development opportunities.	Precursor	\$	\$	0	SWS, Planning, Sustainability	Immediate	Circular economy location potential (i.e. reuse centre), diversification of economy, Reduced costs for waste management	BOWDA Bow Valley Regional Waste Commission	Strategy developed and implemented
Dispose of municipal solid waste in a landfill with methane gas capture.	High	\$	\$	0	SWS	Immediate	Improved air quality, Reputational improvement	Town of Banff	Action completed
Develop and implement a Zero Waste Strategy, with a focus on circular economy. Include actions to both incentivize and require waste diversion, with a focus on food waste and other organic material.	Low	\$	\$	0,5	SWS, Sustainability, Communication	5-10 years	Community involvement, Reduced costs of waste management		Strategy developed and implemented





Briefing

DATE OF MEETING: June 18, 2024 **Agenda #: D 2**

To: Committee of the Whole

SUBJECT: Permanent Resident Tax Program Implementation Plan Update

SUBMITTED BY: Katherine Van Keimpema, Financial Strategy Manager

PURPOSE: To provide an update on the key actions required to implement a permanent resident tax program, as directed by Council on January 9, 2024.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Further to Council's direction to implement a permanent resident property tax program to incentivize the full-time, long-term occupancy of residential units, administration investigated two options, a rebate program, and a primary residential assessment subclass program. The investigation indicated that the subclass program is the better mechanism. A program implementation plan has been developed that includes nine key actions; this report outlines these actions.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At its June 6, 2023 regular meeting, Council passed resolution 121-23:

Moved by Mayor Krausert that Council direct administration to return to Council with a report on property tax policy options to incentivize purpose-built rentals and full-time/ long-term occupancy of residential units.

At its January 9, 2024 regular meeting, Council passed resolution 16-24:

Moved by Mayor Krausert that Council accept the Livability Task Force's recommendations for information as presented and direct administration to develop an implementation plan.

DISCUSSION

One of the Livability Task Force's recommendations was to investigate tax structures to incentivize full-time, long-term occupancy of residential units. Empty and infrequently occupied housing contributes to Canmore's housing crisis by removing potential long-term rental units from the market. Incentives to occupy housing units full-time by the owner or by long-term tenants can directly impact the housing crisis.

Unfortunately, Canmore is not alone in its housing challenges. A number of municipalities in Alberta and in other Canadian provinces face housing challenges. As part of the solution, some have implemented vacant home tax regimes, separate from property taxes, with the funds collected used to support affordable housing initiatives. Two examples of cities with vacant home taxes are Vancouver and Toronto, both of whom have experienced a significant drop in the percentage of vacant houses as a result. Vancouver's City Charter provides authority for their Council to impose an annual vacancy tax and the City of Toronto Act authorizes

Toronto to enact a tax on the assessed value of vacant residential units; both charters are provincial legislation enabling a vacant home tax.

Contrarily, Alberta's Municipal Government Act (MGA) does not contain a mechanism by which Canmore could charge a similar explicit vacancy tax. Given this limitation, administration investigated what was possible under the Alberta MGA, Alberta's enabling legislation, and found two options: tax residential properties at a higher rate and provide a rebate to those properties occupied long-term; or create a primary residential assessment subclass for properties occupied long-term and tax them at a lower rate than other residential properties. These are the rebate, and the subclass program options, respectively.

It has been determined that a rebate program would:

- Require residents occupying or renting out their residential properties long-term to declare their status annually.
- Allow Council to impose penalties and fines for false declarations.
- Need to ensure that it does not discriminate between different taxpayers unless otherwise expressly allowed in enabling legislation. Section 347 of the MGA permits Council to cancel, refund, or reduce taxes for a property or class of properties if it considers it equitable to do so. In the case of a legal challenge, Council would need to demonstrate that its decision was equitable.
- Only apply retroactively, meaning taxes would be assessed at a higher rate, then rebated afterwards. Council cannot delegate its authority to cancel, refund or reduce property taxes under section 347 of the MGA and cannot fetter a future Council's decision to grant a rebate or not. Therefore, Council cannot pass a "standing" resolution giving authority to administration to automatically rebate taxes on properties that qualify under the program, nor include this provision in a bylaw. An annual Council resolution would be required that includes the specific amount of the rebate for each qualifying property.
- Be administratively burdensome and may cause taxpayer confusion over taxes owing. Tax notices would be issued, then refunds calculated, brought to Council for consideration, then amended tax notices sent and, in the cases where full taxes have already been paid, preparing refunds. Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP) payments would also need to be recalculated after the refunds were issued and affected property owners notified.
- Require an appeal process to be developed and implemented.
- Allow Council to charge appeal fees that recover the cost for processing them.

Alternatively, it has been determined that a primary residential subclass program would:

- Require residents occupying or renting out their residential properties long-term to declare their status annually.
- Allow Council to impose penalties and fines for false declarations.
- Apply proactively, meaning taxes would be assessed on primary residential properties at a rate set for this subclass and all other residential properties could be taxed at a different rate, as decided annually by Council when setting the tax/mill rates.
- Enable Tax notices to be issued with the final applicable taxes owing without requiring amendment, saving staff time, and minimizing taxpayer confusion over taxes owing.
- Be implemented under the provisions of section 297 of the MGA, which provides Council with broad discretion to divide residential properties into any number of subclasses on any basis it

considers appropriate. This is a provision that expressly allows different taxpayers to be treated differently; Council would not need to demonstrate that its decision was equitable.

- Utilize the assessment complaint process through the Assessment Review Board, an existing and well-established process, to hear appeals.
- Require that appeal fees be those set by Council for assessment appeals but subject to the limits outlined in the MGA, currently \$50/tax roll. This amount does not cover the cost of processing them.

Given that subclasses are expressly permitted in the MGA, the administration of a subclass program is not as onerous as a rebate program, and that it would minimize taxpayer confusion over taxes owing, administration is pursuing the subclass program and has developed an implementation plan. Should Council prefer that the rebate program be the chosen mechanism, an amended implementation plan will be brought back for discussion.

Going forward, the primary residential subclass option will be referred to as the permanent resident tax program. The following actions will come to Council for approval:

1. Rewrite Bylaw 2013-01 Division of Class 1 Property to add a Primary Residential subclass by Fall 2024. In order to meet the tight timelines required to implement this program for the 2025 tax year, work has already started on this action and will be done at the same time as the removal of the Tourist Home – Personal Use subclass in the current bylaw. The rewritten bylaw will be brought to Council for adoption.
2. Develop the criteria for the types of housing initiatives revenue from the program can be used to fund, with corresponding amendments to the Reserves Policy.
3. Develop the budget for anticipated revenue from the program and the housing initiatives to be funded from it.
4. Develop the key performance indicators (KPIs) to track the program and its effectiveness, including the necessary data collection and reporting processes.
5. Update the Property Tax Policy to include the Permanent Resident Tax Program and direction to ensure the annual budgeted revenue from the program is charged to the residential properties and not the other classes of properties.

Additional actions will be advanced by Administration with updates provided to Council regularly as follows:

1. Develop the annual primary residence declaration process, including online solutions to simplify and streamline it, and determine the additional resources needed to implement and run it.
2. Develop the proactive enforcement/audit process, including the additional resources needed to implement and run it.
3. Develop the communications plan, including required supporting resources, to ensure taxpayers are aware of the new program and processes.

4. Determine the mechanism for setting the tax/mill rates for the different classes to ensure the budgeted revenue will be collected.
5. Develop an education program to assist those wanting to rent their properties out long-term.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

As part of the normal operating budget approval process, Council will be asked to approve additional staffing resources to support the program and its processes and approve the program’s budgeted revenue and expenditures. The additional resources needed will be determined as the specifics of the program are developed, although it is preliminarily anticipated that additional staffing resources will be required in the Tax and Assessment, Communications, and Municipal Enforcement areas. Administration will be recommending that costs to administer the Livability Task Force recommendations be funded from the incremental taxes collected, resulting in no additional tax increase to support these initiatives.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

To date, the Finance, Planning and Development, Economic Development, Municipal Enforcement, Information Technology, and Communications departments, and the Livability Task Force have been engaged. The determined level of engagement for this work is “information sharing”. Process development and adjustments to the Division of Class 1 Property Bylaw do not require public hearings, although a communications plan will be developed and implemented to ensure those affected by the program are informed ahead of time.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

AUTHORIZATION

Submitted by:	Katherine Van Keimpema Financial Strategy Manager	Date:	<u>May 22, 2024</u>
Approved by:	Chelsey Gibbons Manager of Financial Services	Date:	<u>May 30, 2024</u>
Approved by:	Therese Rogers General Manager of Corporate Services	Date:	<u>May 23, 2024</u>
Approved by:	Sally Caudill Chief Administrative Officer	Date:	<u>June 11, 2024</u>



Briefing

DATE OF MEETING: June 18, 2024 **Agenda #: D 3**

TO: Committee of the Whole

SUBJECT: Budget Update

SUBMITTED BY: Chelsey Gibbons, Manager of Finance

PURPOSE: To provide an update on the planning and process for developing the Budgets and Business Plans for 2025-2030.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Preliminary planning and initial meetings have begun in preparation for the budget cycle this year. Ahead of most of the budget planning happening over this summer, this report provides a preliminary update on what the process is envisioned to look like this year, and how things are currently trending.

The intention is to complete another two-year budget approval in accordance with past practice. Administration similarly plans to follow the same approach from the last cycle of completing a budget based on maintaining current service levels and programming, with options for additions or reductions based on Council's strategic priorities or recommended administrative items.

The one deviation from the status quo budget will be the inclusion of the work of the Livability Task Force, most notably the initiatives to support affordable housing to be funded from the differential in taxes between the residential and primary residential sub-classes if this option has been approved by Council in the interim. Administration will be suggesting that costs to administer Livability Task Force recommendations be funded from the incremental taxes collected, resulting in no additional tax increase to support these initiatives.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

On July 5, 2022, Council approved the following motions:

- 166-2022 - Council direct administration to prepare preliminary operating and capital budgets for 2023 and 2024 based on status quo service levels.
- 167-2022 - Council direct administration to prepare preliminary operating plans for 2025-2026 and capital plans for 2025-2028.
- 168-2022 - Council direct administration to prepare prioritized lists of optional increases or decreases to the 2023 and 2024 budgets for consideration, based on strategic priorities or recommended administrative items.
- 169-2022 - Council direct administration to report back with a recommendation on Fortis and ATCO Gas franchise fee rates in advance of the necessary notification periods.

- 170-2022 - Council direct administration to track and report back to Council at budget time the total costs for delivering emergency medical services by Canmore Fire-Rescue based on a cost recovery model.
- 171-2022 - Council direct administration to identify potential areas of provincial downloading of costs and report back to Council at budget time the estimated total cost of said downloading.

DISCUSSION

The motions approved by Council to provide budget direction in previous years are not required by the Municipal Government Act or by Council approved policy and are a historic practice which is no longer needed because Council has moved away from setting an indicative tax rate.

The first draft of the budget brought to Finance Committee for discussion will be based on maintaining the current service levels and programs, accounting for any trends or changes that Administration has identified. Administration will also prepare prioritized lists of option increases or decreases for consideration, based on strategic priorities, or recommended administrative items. Some of this planning has already been undertaken as the Senior Leadership Team has had several Priority Based Business Planning sessions.

The first draft for discussion would also be based on existing policies approved by Council, inclusive of any other direction, such as surrounding the usage of franchise fees and in accordance with the Paid Parking Revenue Allocation Model.

As mentioned above, the only deviation from current service levels and programs would be to include the incremental items related to livability, to be funded through difference in property taxes between the Residential and Primary Residency sub-classes, should that be approved by Council in the interim, stemming from the work completed by the Livability Task Force.

Additionally, Administration intends to continue with the identification and reporting to Council of potential areas of provincial downloading as part of the annual budgeting process.

Finance Committee meetings are scheduled to start on October 11th this year, with the intent of having budget approval on December 10th.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Administration is closely monitoring cost of living (COLA) data. The initial 2025 operating plan includes a COLA estimate of 2.0%. Currently year over year data indicates it is trending closer to approximately 3.8%.

Administration is also following forecasts for construction inflation in the preparation of capital plans. The Calgary and Region Economic Outlook released in the Spring of 2024 for the years 2024-2029 showed projections for Non-Residential Building Construction of 0.7%, 2.0%, 2.4%, 0.9%, and 2.2% for the 2025 through 2029 respectively.

While consistent with the approach of maintaining current service levels and programs, Administration is also working on an approach for current and future budget years to account for the anticipated higher levels of growth within the community going forward. Additional resources will be required to keep pace with that growth to maintain the current service levels and programs, and an approach to begin to plan for that growth is in the early planning stages.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The plan and process will be communicated to Town affiliates for the development of their own budget submissions.

The budget meeting schedule and all related budget documents will be published on the Town’s website, and Finance Committee meetings are held in public.

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

AUTHORIZATION

Submitted by:	Chelsey Gibbons Manager of Financial Services	Date:	<u>May 27, 2024</u>
Approved by:	Therese Rogers GM of Corporate Services	Date:	<u>May 31, 2024</u>
Approved by:	Sally Caudill Chief Administrative Officer	Date:	<u>June 11, 2024</u>



Councillor Updates

DATE OF MEETING: June 18, 2024

Agenda #: E 1

1. Mayor Krausert

- a) Bow Valley Regional Transit Services Commission
 - I defer to Councillor Foubert's report.
- b) Tourism Canmore Kananaskis
 - A board meeting was held on May 23, 2024, which I was unable to attend.
- c) Rocky Mountain Heritage Foundation
 - Nothing new to report.
- d) Emergency Management Committee
 - The quarterly Emergency Management Committee meeting was held on May 17, 2024.
 - Updates were provided on Bill 21 – Emergency Management Act Amendments; Municipal Emergency Management Plan Updates; Emergency Alerting Notifications System; Wildfire Mutual Aid; Upcoming Preparedness Activities.
- e) Human Wildlife Co-existence Roundtable
 - A meeting of the Human Wildlife Co-Existence Roundtable was held on May 16, 2024.
 - We received updates from the technical working group. Upcoming fencing initiatives in Canmore (i.e. TransCanada; parks) along with increased fruit tree removal planned in Canmore were highlighted as well as our new Animal Control Bylaw. It was noted that Canmore has an implementation plan for the aspects of the Human Wildlife Co-existence Report for which we are responsible.
 - For the first time, Kananaskis Improvement District was represented at the table. The roundtable now has representatives from Canmore, Banff, MD of Bighorn, Kananaskis Improvement District, Parks Canada, the Government of the Province of Alberta, and Alberta Parks and Wildlife.
- f) Town of Canmore – MD of Bighorn Inter-Municipal Committee
 - Nothing new to report. The June 13, 2024 meeting has been rescheduled to September.
- g) Regenerative Tourism Taskforce
 - Nothing new to report.

h) Mid-Sized Cities Mayors' Caucus (MCMC)

- MCMC has joined other groups representing municipalities in expressing concern with respect to aspects of Bill 20. This advocacy has led to some amendments that create clarity around some of the more contentious aspects of the bill.
- Minister McIver (Municipal Affairs) has provided a letter to address concerns raised by Bill 20.

i) Advocacy on Behalf of the Town of Canmore (in addition to MCMC activities)

- On April 29, 2024, the Mayors and CAO's of Canmore, Banff, Jasper, Sylvan Lake, and Drumheller met to continue planning towards advocating to the province with respect to support for tourism-based communities.
- On May 15, 2024, the tourism-based communities met to prepare for an initial meeting with Minister Schow (Tourism & Sport).
- On May 16, 2024, I sent a letter on behalf of Council to Premier Smith and Minister McIver (Municipal Affairs) expressing our concerns with respect to Bills 18 and 20.
- On May 17, 2024, I had lunch with Sal Rasheed, Superintendent of Banff National Park to discuss issues common to both parties – housing, traffic, transportation, parking.
- On May 21, 2024, the MCMC Executive met with Minister McIver (hybrid in-person/virtual meeting) to discuss concerns related to Bill 20.
- On May 21, 2024, the mayors of the five tourism-based communities had a virtual meeting with Minister Schow as a first meeting to discuss the needs of our communities in order to support the province with the new provincial tourism strategy.

j) Events

- On May 4, 2024, I provided a report to the community to Da Guys & Da Gals breakfast held at St. Michael's Anglican Church.
- On May 8, 2024, along with the Canmore Community Housing Board, including several Councillors, I participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for 205 Stewart Creek Rise.
- On May 14, 2024, I hosted a virtual town hall on emergency preparedness, and answered lots of questions from residents with the support from the Manager of Protective Services.
- On May 16, 2024, I attended, provided remarks, and raised the Pride Flag in recognition of the International Day Against Homophobia, Lesbophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia.
- On May 17, 2024, I attended and provided remarks for the launch of the new, seasonal Roam Route 12 to Grassi Lakes.
- On May 19, 2024, I attended the signing of the Canmore-Sedona Friendship Agreement, which took place over Zoom with Mayor Jablow (Sedona).
- On May 21, 2024, I attended the 15th Anniversary Celebration for Rocky Mountain Adaptive held at artsPlace.
- On May 25, 2024, I attended and brought remarks to the “ribbon cutting ride” to celebrate the West Canmore Path project being complete.

k) Miscellaneous

- I continued with my regular appearance on Mountain FM with Rob Murray.
- I conducted various media interviews, including: CTV news re housing crisis in Canmore; and Rocky Mountain Outlook on several issues.
- On May 1, 2024, I attended a presentation about Hockey Day in Canada being hosted in Canmore on January 18, 2025, with several events being planned by the community organizers in the days leading up to the nationally televised event.
- On May 14, 2024, I toured a grade six class from Lawrence Grassi Middle School around the Civic Centre and facilitated a mock council meeting.
- On May 23, 2024, I attended Our Lady of the Snows School to answer questions of the grade 6 classes with respect to local governance.

2. Councillor Foubert

a) Bow Valley Regional Transit Services Commission

- The commission is ready to occupy the space it has rented in the old fire hall in Canmore and staff are excited to have more space!
- Canmore Local Route 12 officially launched for the May long weekend in partnership with Alberta Parks, along with the other summer service changes to routes 1, 3, 4, 6, 8S and 11.
- Summer reservations opened May 2 and the website crashed due to the volume of customers trying to book - 600 clicks per minute - with over 6,000 tickets sold in the first half hour.
- The MD of Bighorn and Kananaskis ID have contracted Dillon to study potential opportunities for collaboration or integration of transit services.
- Canmore Local service continues to have 28 per cent growth year over year, and the regional route is at 14 per cent increase.

b) Community Grants Selection Committee

- Deliberations have begun and continue on May 30.

c) Canmore Museum Society

- A new exhibit has launched in the Museum Gallery! Check it out and follow the Museum on social media to keep up-to-date on programming
- The board is considering a new fund development strategy and would like to engage in conversations about the future of the museum and a new facility for it in the future.

d) Downtown Canmore Business Improvement Area

- The BIA is able to take on the lease of 806 Main Street to create a Pop-Up Park in that space with the potential to engage community groups to offer programming as well.
- The BIA board is moving toward forming two official sub-committees to focus on our priorities this year: one that will look at the levy and the borders of the BIA, the other that will look at vibrancy, activation and events and how the paid parking grant money should be utilized into the future.

e) Subdivision and Development Appeal Board

- PL20230327 1004 Third Ave - detached dwelling with an accessory dwelling unit – variance to water body setback and rear yard setback – appeal against refusal by development authority – the appeal was approved by the board.
- 1 Silvertip Trail – appeal against an approval and conditions of approval by the development authority (CPC) – the appeal was allowed and conditions added to the development permit that: 1. The development agreement with the Town shall include the requirement to construct or pay for the construction of a pathway as part of offsite requirements with the alignment to be determined to the satisfaction of the Town. 2. The applicant shall provide an access easement to accommodate the location of the pathway as required. 3. The fence shall be screened by natural landscaping along Silvertip Trail in keeping with the context. 4. The emergency access shall be used for emergency access only and shall not otherwise be open to the public or any other users of the hotel and other related uses. 5. The spa is for hotel guest use only. Should the applicant wish to allow public access to the spa accessory use, a further development permit application will be required.

f) Other points of interest

- McHappy Day on May 8
- Party on the Pathway on May 25

3. Councillor Graham

a) Bow Valley Wildsmart

- Unable to attend.
- Bear Day on April 20 at the CNC was a big success with around 500 attendees
- Wildsmart Ambassadors are being hired and deployed
- The Biosphere Institute’s Gareth and Nick are members of the Canmore Area Trails Strategy (CATS) and have been participating in the meetings in 2024.
- New Board member Colin.

b) Canmore Community Housing

- Defer to Councillor Hilstad

c) Canmore Mountain Arts Foundation

- The Board would like to thank Nicole Fougere for her passionate tenure at artsPlace and wish her well with future endeavours in Newfoundland.
- artsPlace hiring the following:
 - Director of Communications
 - Evening Operations Coordinator
 - Programs, Operations and Communications Coordinator
- CMAF has appointed three new board members with a focus on DEI
 - Jerome Laycock - (entering 1st year of a two-year term; appointed 2024)
 - Stewart Moffatt - (entering 1st year of a two-year term; appointed 2024)
 - Meredith Bratland - (entering 1st year of a two-year term; appointed 2024)
- CMAF continues to be on solid financial standing with a clean audit.

- d) Other points of interest
 - CCH ground-breaking ceremony at Stewart Creek
 - AB Munis Bill 20 update and briefing.

4. Councillor Hilstad

- a) Canmore Community Housing
 - CCH Operations Report attached below.
 - CCH has moved into its new office space at #100, 729-10st.
- b) Canmore Planning Commission
 - I defer to Councillor McCallum's report.
- c) CAO Performance Review Committee
 - Nothing new to report.
- d) Municipal Emergency Advisory Committee
 - I defer to Mayor Krausert's report.
- e) Enforcement Appeal Review Committee
 - Nothing new to report.
- f) Heliport Monitoring Committee
 - Nothing new to report.
- g) Other points of interest

A horse normally has more than one horsepower. A study in 1993 showed that the maximum power a horse can produce is 18,000W, which is about 24 horsepower.

5. Councillor Mah

- a) Bow Valley Waste Management Commission
 - The Commission met on May 16th, 2024. I'm pleased to confirm that the Commission is on firm financial footing. Our ladder bond investment strategy led by ATB continues to provide an excellent balance between low risk and reliable earnings.
 - Further, this meeting was held in the MD of Bighorn at the Canadian Museum of Making. A passion project of local Ian MacGregor, this giant underground museum nestled in the hills off of Jamieson Rd is spectacular. See attached photo of massive steam engine within a concrete bunker.
 - The roll-out of EPR continues and we eagerly await to learn more about next steps.



- b) Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley
 - The Biosphere met on Apr 29th 2024 to hear the results of our financial audit. The Biosphere’s financial outlook is steady.
 - We have determined the facilitator for our upcoming strategic plan session. Kathy Arney will be leading the Biosphere strategic plan in mid-June.

- c) Canmore Community Housing
 - I defer to Councillor Hilstad’s report for operations summary
 - the CCH hiring committee is searching for a replacement ED. Our consultant Human Edge is currently fielding candidates. We expect to see a shortlist in early July, interviews mid-month, and if all goes well, an offer go to the successful candidate shortly afterwards.

- d) CAO Performance Review Committee
 - nothing to report

- e) Cultural Advisory Committee
 - The CAC continues to work on finding ways to connect the Cultural Master Plan into finite, tangible priorities which will aid in future funding requests and direction.
 - We are pleased to see Cedar Meuller’s “Flower Bear” sculpture on display on main street’s pedestrian zone

- f) Emergency Management Committee
 - I defer to Mayor Krausert’s report

- g) Other points of interest
 - On May 8th, attended the Ground-Breaking for CCH’s Stewart Creek project. This is an exciting housing development.
 - Attended the Flag Raising for International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia on May 16th. The speakers were excellent.
 - Attended the Party on the Path on May 25th. It was great to see such a diverse group of users benefit from this worthwhile project.

6. Councillor Marra

- a) Assessment Review Board
 - Nothing new to report.
 - Appeals will start to be heard in September.
- b) Bow Valley Regional Housing
 - See attached newsletter and waitlists
- c) Bow Valley Waste Management Commission
 - I defer to Councillor Mah.
- d) Canmore/MD of Bighorn Intermunicipal Committee
 - Meeting scheduled for September.
- e) Canmore Public Library
 - The Homebound Readers program in partnership with FCSS is now up and running,
 - We have a new program and extension of our Moon Exchange it is called Seed exchange, which will run from May 11 to July 31. Drop off any packages of seeds that are less than 2 years old and exchange for a different variety. For details check out the Canmore Library website.
- f) Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association
 - Nothing new to report. Next meeting scheduled for May 31.
- g) Subdivision and Development Appeal Board
 - See Town of Canmore website for scheduled appeal dates.
- h) Other points of interest
 - I attended a workshop on Market value property assessment, income- based approach and Mass appraisal assessment. (ARB training).

7. Councillor McCallum

- a) Assessment Review Board
 - May 24th, 2024 - The LPRT held a 3 hour online workshop with 200 provincial ARB members to review best practices and answer any questions that sitting ARB members might have as we head into appeal season in the fall
- b) Bow Valley Regional Housing
 - I defer to Councillor Marra's report
- c) Canmore Planning Commission
 - May 22 – The CPC met to consider the following application:
 PL20230350
 500 Cascade Drive
 Lot 1, Block 19, Plan 1510968
 Variances Proposed: Maximum building height, maximum density

The decision was deferred to the June 19th CPC meeting after asking the applicant to work through the variance to PAH policy within their application.

d) Canmore Community Housing

- I defer to Councillor Hilstad’s report

e) Other points of interest

- May 8th, 2023 – Along with some of my other CCH colleagues, attended the groundbreaking for our latest project at 205 Stewart Creek Rise
- May 8th – Attended virtually the Alberta Municipalities Webinar on the proposed changes to provincial Bill 20.



- May 9th – Toured the new CCH offices during my monthly Board meeting
- May 14th – Attended an informal webinar meeting of Affordable Housing Providers in the province of Alberta to discuss challenges and findings. There was a 15 minute presentation on solar PV by KCP energy on the feasibility of solar PV on multifamily development. I was invited to attend through Altus due to my experience as an elected official.



- May 16th – With my colleagues, attended the civic flag raising to mark the International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia
- May 17th – Enjoyed the inaugural ride of Route 12 up to Grassi Lakes.
- May 25th – Attended with my colleagues the “Party on the Path” – celebrating the long awaited opening of the West Bow River Pathway.



Monthly Bulletin

May 2024



NEWS, INITIATIVES, AND EVENTS

Accreditation

BVRH has kicked off our accreditation process. Our care partners at SE Health will lead as we work together towards accreditation at our Bow River Lodge site. Accreditation, which is a daunting task, is used to prove and improve standards of care.

Please join us at the Bow River Lodge Annual Spring Garden Party

Seniors' Week is a few weeks away, during which we will hold our annual Spring Garden Party! 🌸 We're thrilled to reconnect with our community for a day filled with joy, laughter, and cherished memories.



PROGRAM OCCUPANCY RATES

Bow River Lodge - NSL	96%
Bow River Lodge – DSL	45%
Cascade House	74%
Bow River Homes	100%
Mount Edith House	100%
Community Housing	100%
Rent Supplement	100%

SPECIAL PROJECTS

This is Home (Phase 3+)

Considering ongoing, stubborn uncertainty in the interest rate markets, rising construction costs and challenges aligning GOA and CMHC funding, we will submit our project proposal to Alberta Seniors, Community, and Social Supports in 2024. This will allow us to develop greater certainty toward future capital and operational sustainability. The province received approximately \$500 million in funding requests in 2023 for which they had \$80 million to spend. They have approximately \$405 million in total for the program over the next few years.

These projects, if approved, will refresh much of our Community and Seniors' Independent Housing stock while adding different types and affordability levels of housing to the region in Canmore and perhaps elsewhere. We hope that the GOA will appreciate and be able to approve the opportunity here and that we will be able to collaborate with them, the Town of Canmore, and ideally other Housing Agencies to address some of the housing crisis in the Bow Valley.

BOW VALLEY REGIONAL HOUSING

Alberta's HMBs were created by the Government of Alberta (GOA) to operate and administer provincially owned social housing facilities and programming. The province holds an extensive portfolio of these facilities through the Alberta Social Housing Corporation (ASHC), serving many needy and vulnerable Albertans. Each HMB is a not-for-profit self-governing corporation under the Alberta Housing Act that manages ASHC assets in their respective region. HMBs may operate various housing programs and own facilities. HMBs function as property managers for the province, often working to address relevant housing needs in their region.

Every municipality in Alberta is a contributing member of their regional HMB and, as such, must have at least one appointee serving on the governing board. HMB board members are responsible for acting in the best interests of the body and the entire region.

HMB operational funding sources can vary. Tenants pay accommodation fees, which are usually subject to affordability limits. These limits typically lead to operating deficits by constraining the ability to collect fees sufficient to cover operations costs fully. Provincial grants and municipal requisitions subsidize seniors' lodge deficits, whereas the province alone funds deficits in independent seniors and community housing programs.

As the HMB for the Bow Valley region, BVRH is responsible for social housing and affordable supportive living accommodation for seniors throughout Kananaskis Country, the Bow Corridor, the MD of Bighorn, and all of Banff National Park. The region covers an area of 13,500 square kilometers that has two towns and seven hamlets that contain approximately 28,000 people. Our five contributing municipalities are Kananaskis ID, MD of Bighorn, Banff, Canmore, and Improvement District No9. Residents of the region can access our programs, subject to eligibility requirements.

We are an independent body that collaborates with two provincial ministries, five municipal governments, numerous agencies in our region, and provincial organizations to provide and promote safe and appropriate housing. Please see www.bvrh.ca for contact information.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Bow Valley Regional Housing provides accommodation services, including seniors' supportive living for Bow Valley region residents who struggle to secure and maintain income-appropriate housing.

We provide housing-related programs to approximately 400 residents in the Bow Valley region, delivered through our four programs. These programs are housed across seven properties in Banff and Canmore that contain thirty-four separate buildings, twenty of which are stand-alone houses.

Our projects include the following:

- Seniors' lodges in Canmore and Banff provide room and board to the 150 residents.
 - The DSL wing at Bow River Lodge in Canmore delivers designated supportive living to the region through sixty 24-hour care suites that provide appropriate care and accommodation to our vulnerable seniors.
- Seniors' self-contained independent housing buildings in Canmore and Banff that include a total of 62 one-bedroom apartments.
- Family housing residences in Canmore include 38 townhouses and 20 houses.
- Rent Supplement Programs currently provide financial assistance to approximately 60 households in the Bow Valley.
- Planning is underway to convert a 15-suite lodge wing into housing.
- Planning is underway for re-profiling a part of the Bow River Lodge site to increase the number of seniors' self-contained suites while adding other affordable housing options.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

Bow Valley Regional Housing collaborates with relevant agencies, ensuring that suitable programming mitigates the housing needs of our client base.

- We make decisions and recommendations using relevant and valid community trends and housing needs data.
- We obtain funding to develop infrastructure that meets identified needs in social and supportive income-appropriate housing programs.
- We embrace principles that incorporate innovation, service excellence, best practices, and energy efficiency.
- We attract, retain, and support highly qualified and caring staff.

The BVRH team includes approximately fifty employees based at Bow River Seniors Lodge in Canmore and Cascade House in Banff. Our Central Administration and Maintenance Teams are based in Canmore and serve all our projects. We have dedicated Housekeeping and Food Services Teams at both lodges.

OUR VALUES



More information is available on our website at www.bvrh.ca



Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
Bow River Seniors Lodge, Canmore AB

PRESENT: Lisa Rosvold (Chair), Karen Marra, Joanna McCallum, and Ted Christensen

ALSO PRESENT: Ian Wilson (CAO), Greg Hutchings (Operations Manager), and Jennifer Comighod (Client Services Manager)

TELECONFERENCE: Kateri Cowley and Don Beaulieu

REGRETS: Chip Olver

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Chairperson L. Rosvold called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
Motion 24-030: K. Marra to approve the agenda. Carried unanimously.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. **Regular Meeting of the Board:**
Motion 24-031: T Christensen to approve the minutes of March 28, 2024, the regular meeting of the board as presented. Carried unanimously.
4. **CAO REPORT**
 - a. **'This is Home' Redevelopment:** verbal updates provided and discussed.
 - b. **Budget 2024: Alberta:** report provided and discussed.
 - c. **BRL Open House:** verbal updates provided and discussed.
5. **CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION**
 - a. **2023 Financial Report:** report provided and discussed.
Motion 24-032: K. Marra to accept the report as information. Carried unanimously.
 - b. **April 2024 BVRH Bulletin:** provided and reviewed.
Motion 24-033: K. Cowley to accept the report as information. Carried unanimously.
 - c. **April 2024 Occupancy and Waitlist Report:** provided and reviewed.
Motion 24:034: T. Christensen to accept the report as information. Carried unanimously.
6. **In-Camera:**
Motion 24-035: K. Marra to take the meeting in camera. Carried unanimously.
 - a. **Tenant Matter for Information:** discussed.
 - b. **Communications Matter for Information:** discussed.
 - c. **Labour Matter for information:** discussed.
Motion 24-036: J. McCallum to take the meeting out of the camera. Carried unanimously.
7. **DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING(S)**
 - a. **Next Regular Meeting of the Board:**
May 23, 2024, starting at 10:00 a.m. in Bow River Lodge, Canmore.
8. **ADJOURNMENT**
Motion 24-037: D. Beaulieu that the meeting adjourn at 10:43 a.m. Carried unanimously.



Lisa Rosvold, Chairperson



Ian Wilson, CAO

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Jennifer Comighod, Client Services Manager

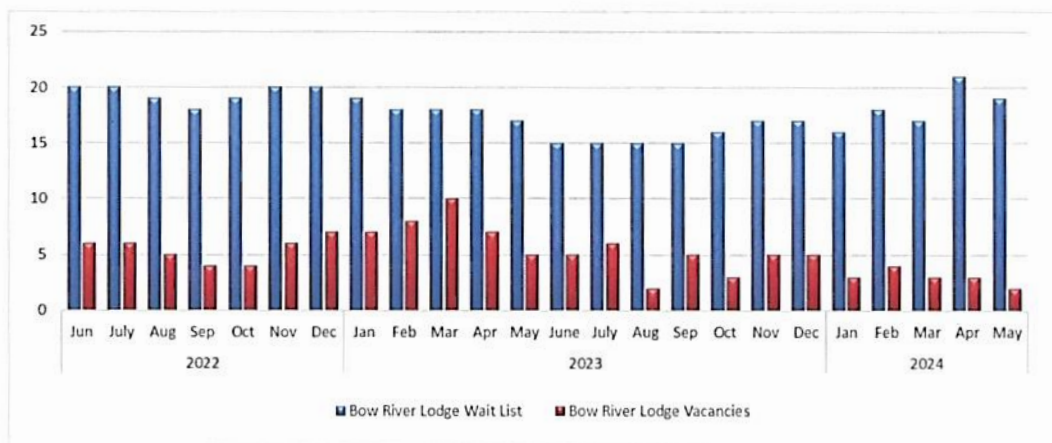
May 2024 Occupancy & Waitlist Report



Bow River Seniors Lodge in Canmore

Occupancy and waitlist as of May 16, 2024:

- The lodge has sixty-three residential suites.
- Of those suites, fifty-seven are occupied or available for occupancy.
- The other suites are not available for occupancy. They are not captured in the chart below but include the following:
 - Four are utilized as storage or amenity space.
 - Two are being rehabilitated (one was a former office)
- 96% of the habitable suites are occupied or awarded pending move-in.
- Twenty-one candidate households are wait-listed, and most are not ready to move in.



Bow River Seniors Lodge – DSL Wing in Canmore

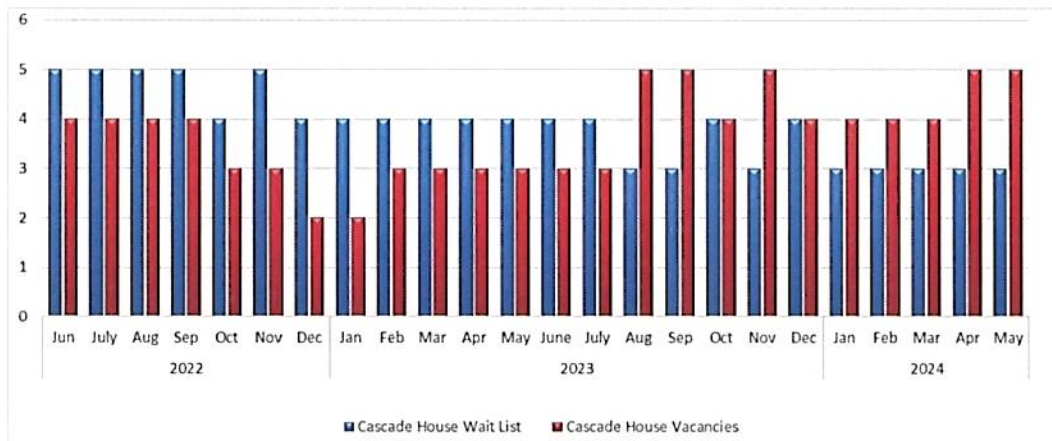
Occupancy as of May 16, 2024:

- There are thirty units in Designated Supportive Living 4 (DSL4).
- First floor – dementia unit - not yet operational, pending staffing.
- Second floor – care unit at 90% occupancy
- AHS controls the admissions process; we are not privy to waitlist information.

Cascade House (Seniors Lodge) in Banff

Occupancy and waitlist as of May 16, 2024:

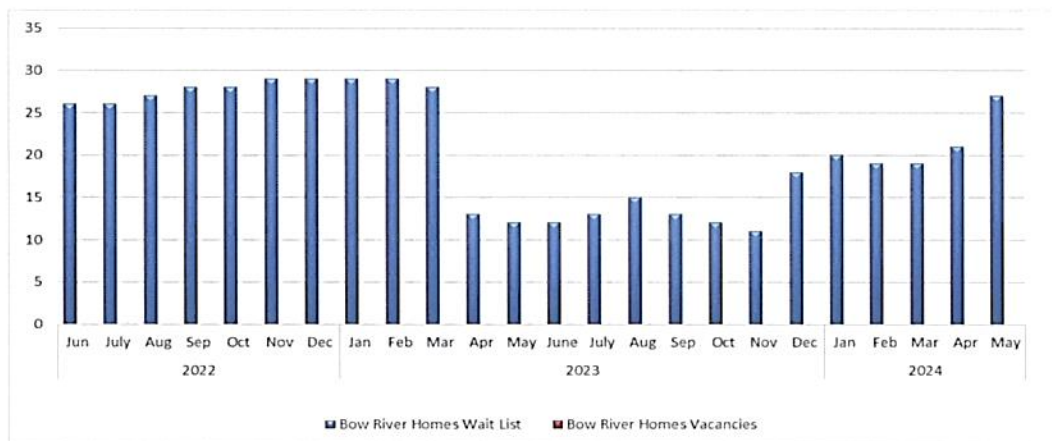
- The lodge has twenty-two residential suites.
- Of those suites, nineteen are occupied or available for occupancy.
- The other suite is not available for occupancy. They are not captured in the chart below but include the following:
 - Three are being rehabilitated.
- 74% of the habitable suites are occupied or awarded pending move-in.
- Three candidate households are wait-listed, and all of them are not yet ready to move in.



Bow River Homes (Seniors Self-Contained) in Canmore

Occupancy and waitlist as of May 16, 2024:

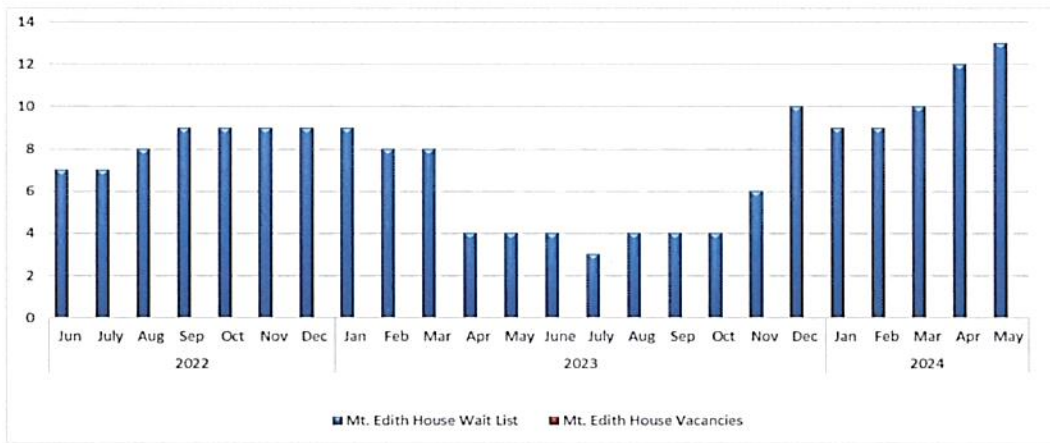
- The project has twenty-eight self-contained residential suites.
- Of those suites, twenty-seven are occupied or available for occupancy.
- The other suite is not available for occupancy. They are not captured in the chart below but include the following:
 - One that is being rehabilitated.
- 100% of the habitable suites are occupied or awarded pending move-in.
- Twenty-seven candidate households are wait-listed.



Mount Edith House (Seniors Self-Contained) in Banff

Occupancy and waitlist as of May 16, 2024:

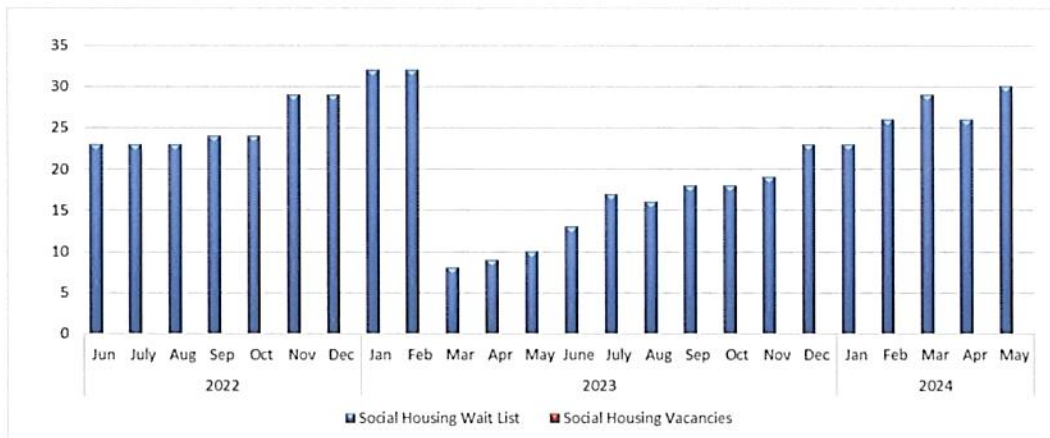
- The building has thirty-four self-contained residential suites.
- Of those suites, thirty-three are occupied or available for occupancy.
- The other suite is not available for occupancy. They are not captured in the chart below but include the following:
 - One that is being rehabilitated.
- 100% of the habitable suites are occupied or awarded pending move-in.
- Thirteen candidate households are wait-listed.



Community Housing Projects in Canmore

Occupancy and waitlist as of May 16, 2024:

- The portfolio has fifty-eight individual residential units.
- Of those fifty-eight units, fifty-six are occupied or available for occupancy.
- The other suites are not available for occupancy. They are not captured in the chart below but include the following:
 - Two are being rehabilitated.
- 100% of the habitable suites are occupied.
- Thirty candidate households are wait-listed.



Rent Supplement (RS) Programs in the Bow Valley Region.

Occupancy and waitlist as of May 16, 2024:

- A monthly budget of \$32,583.00.
- Providing financial subsidies to fifty-seven active client households.
- Twenty-one candidate households are wait-listed.
- The monthly subsidy totalled \$29,149.00, averaging \$511.00 per client household.
- Of our active RS client households:
 - 46 live in Canmore
 - 9 live in Banff
 - 1 live in Deadman’s Flat
 - 1 live in Exshaw



Housing Operations

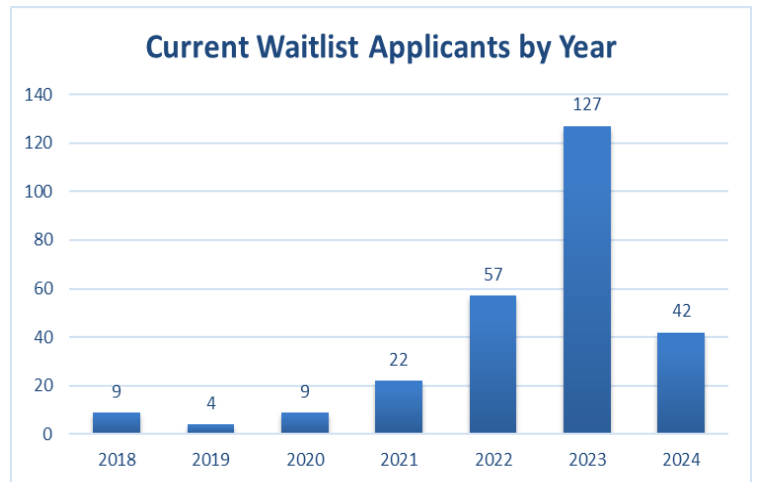
April saw less sales action than March, with the only property sale closing being one of the last CCH-owned units at the Wolf Willow condominium. Two other units were in negotiation during the month of April, one of which being a CCH acquisition that will re-enter the Vital Homes Own program soon after the sale closes. No other resale units are anticipated soon, but interest continues to remain high for the Stewart Creek development which will see ground-breaking occur soon. New applications were balanced for the month of April, with 14 new Rental applicants and 12 new Own applicants. CCH has also spent considerable time in the past month reviewing our existing waitlists for expired eligibilities to ensure accurate records ahead of transition to our online client management system. We continue to work with Arcori on refinements for the online management system and would anticipate rollout to take place in early summer 2024.

CCH OPERATIONS REPORT											
April 2024											
	OWN Program			RENT Program							
Wait List:	277	+12 over last month		212			-27 over last month (due to file clean up/removals)				
Applications YTD:	46	+12 over last month, -12 over same time last year		76			+16 over last month -13 less than same time last year				
Applications Received/Processed 2023:	130			149							
Inquiries YTD:	111	+28 over last month +35 over same time last year		71			+24 over last month -45 over same time last year				
Inquiries 2023:	312 Total			442 Total							
Current Occupancy:				98%	Hector	100%	McArthur	100%	Wolf Willow	100%	NLCC
Total Vital Home Units:	169	1 closed sale, 1 firm sale, 1 active listing		60		48		2		1	
Turnover YTD:	1%	5		2%	1	2%	1	33%	1	0% 0	
Turnover 2023:	11%	19 sales (19/169)		18%	11 Units (11/60)	31%	15 units (15/48)	30%	3 Units (3/9)	0% 0	
↑ Above numbers updated as of May 1, 2024 ↑											

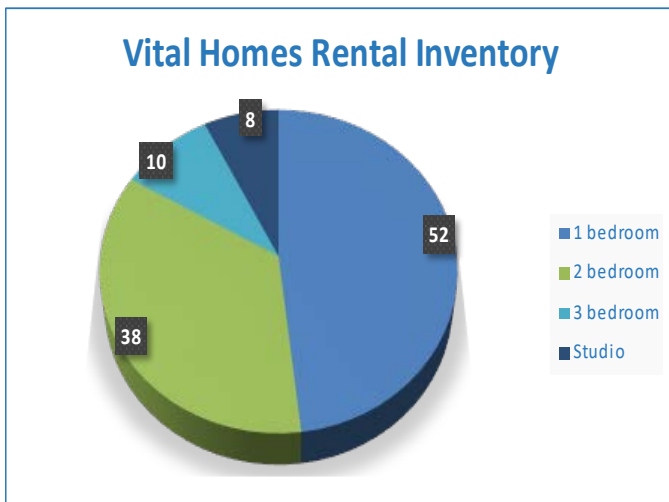


Vital Homes Ownership Program

The overall ownership waitlist still currently stands at 277 households, with registration for the online information sessions continuing to be full monthly. Aside from the above noted active transactions, no other resale opportunities are anticipated soon, and we would expect to see May be the slowest month in terms of sales since the start of the new year. Of the approved applicants for the Vital Homes Own program in April, just over half were single applicants which sits in contrast to the first few months of the year that primarily saw couples and families make up most new applications.



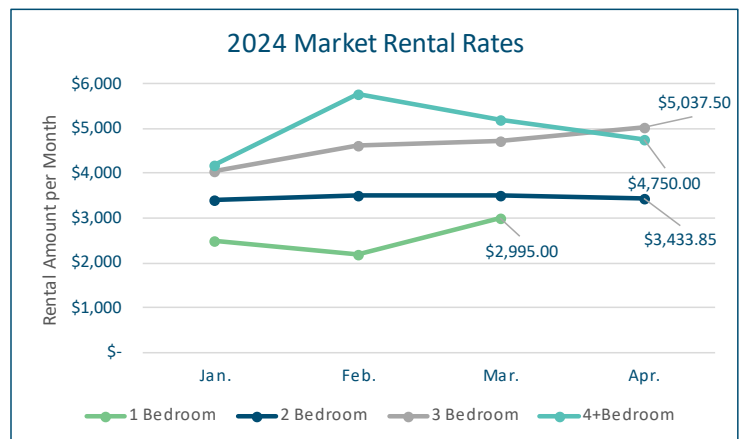
Vital Homes Rental Program



The Vital Homes Rental program waitlist currently stands at 212 households, down significantly from prior months as CCH works to review and update all records for accuracy and eligibility. Turnover rates for CCH properties continue to be extremely low, with only 1 unit seeing a transition starting May 1st, and most tenants for May and June renewals having already renewed their leases for another 1-year term. While our greatest inventory are our 1-bedroom units, the waitlist currently holds over 85 applicants for this style of unit.

Canmore Rental Statistics for 2024

Inventory continues to be low for market rentals as well, specifically with 1-bedroom units as for the first time since April 2023 there no recorded market rentals available for this size of unit. While some are coming on for May that have been observed, we would expect this segment to remain low on inventory in the Spring. We have also observed that 2-bedroom rates have held steady, 3-bedroom rates have increased, and 4-bedroom advertised rates have dipped from what was seen in the prior two months.



Asset Management

Exterior staining at the Hector building is essentially complete with the same painting contractor now ready to move on to work at McArthur Place, with only minimal railing replacement work required to address failing pieces which has been approved to proceed. Eaves trough improvement work has also been approved for the Hector at Palliser which should improve drainage around the property and a contractor has been engaged to complete vinyl deck surface inspections as well. For McArthur Place, the bathroom renovation project to address the legacy shower door issue is scheduled to begin this week, with work planned to take 2 months to complete. After reviewing multiple quotes, CCH has also awarded Stage 1 of the concrete pathway and lighting work to be completed this year, with start dates to be determined. While this project will exceed our initial estimate, this has been a long-standing request of residents at the property and CCH looks forward to improving access and safety in this area significantly.

Housing Development

Since last fall, CCH has been actively pursuing the development of new housing inventory for the CCH ownership and rental programs. This is an involved, multi-stage process and includes preparing applications with technical studies and design development, to gain approvals with the Town for land use bylaw amendments, approval for Development and Building permits and securing funding and a variety of grants.

205 Stewart Creek Rise

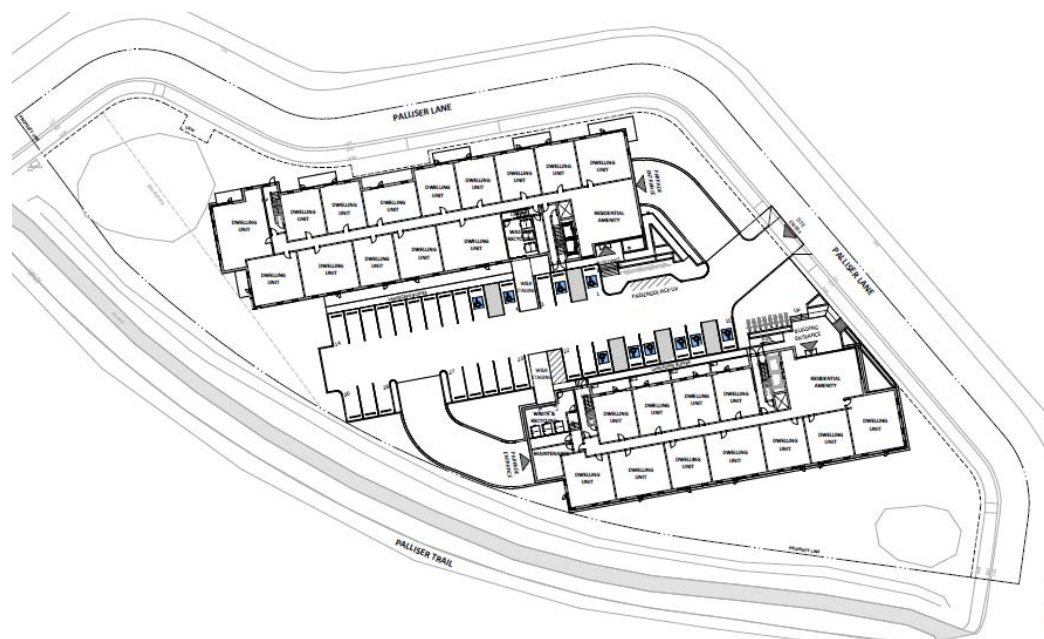


CCH has an approved Development Permit (DP) for the Stewart Creek Rise project, with construction starting in May for 18 Vital Homes ownership units consisting of 10 three-bedroom row houses and 8 two-bedroom stacked townhouses. The homes will range from approximately 815 sq ft - 1,500 sq ft, with the three-bedroom units having attached garages and the two-bedroom units with dedicated, covered storage.

The CCH Development team is working with Ashton Construction Services and Montane Architecture in an integrated framework to expedite the project.

100 Palliser Lane - Purpose Built Rental Development

CCH is actively working through the development of a 144-unit purpose built rental complex located on Palliser Lane. This project will fill a significant demand in the rental housing program. This project will include two buildings: one 6 storeys and the other 4 storeys. Underground and surface parking will be provided along with on-site amenity areas, permanent and dedicated bicycle storage and landscaping.



Conceptual Planning was completed last fall in alignment with the recently approved Palliser Area Structure Plan. This project is currently in detailed design development and CCH is working with our Prime Architectural Consultant GGA Architecture, and our pre-construction partner, Ledcor Construction Inc.

The next steps in this project include achieving a land use bylaw amendment designating this site as a Direct Control District to accommodate the two residential buildings. First Reading was recently passed, and a public hearing has been set for May 7, 2024. CCH has engaged with the adjacent landowners in the meantime to gather feedback and address any concerns related to the proposed development. The project team continues to work on the Development Permit and Building Permit packages as these approvals will be required prior to construction starting late this year. The RFP for Pre-Construction Management has been awarded to Ledcor Construction Inc., and they have been brought in alongside the project consultant team to aid in initial costing, scheduling and risk management on the project.



Administrative Update

DATE OF MEETING:

June 18, 2024

Agenda #: F 1

A. Corporate Strategic Team

1. CAO

- a) We held an all-staff General Assembly in May and provided staff with updates on housing action, risk preparedness, an upcoming employee survey, and the focus of the Communication Department for 2024.
- b) Administration is kicking off budget preparation with Priority Based Business Planning and capital budget pre-planning. As part of this process, all managers shared a quick overview of how they anticipate their 2025-2026 budgets will help achieve Council's Strategic Plan and the related OKRs. They are now working to find opportunities for overlap and collaboration as individual department budgets are prepared.
- c) Attended meeting with Mayor Krausert and MP Blake Richards to discuss housing needs and challenges and the role of the Town as the primary provider of affordable housing in Canmore.
- d) With the GMs of Corporate Services and Municipal Infrastructure, created a document to onboard the future new ED of Canmore Community Housing to the Town of Canmore as a tool for developing strong working relationships and norms between the two organizations.
- e) Meet and greet coffee with the new BIA ED and current board chair, to discuss the working relationship between the BIA and the Town and the priorities and direction of the BIA.
- f) Attended the artsPlace Expanding our Reach Steering Committee meeting as the Town liaison.
- g) Attended Alberta Municipalities session on advocacy around Bill 20.
- h) With the GM of Municipal Services, attended the May BOWDA lunch on risk preparedness.
- i) With all GMs attended a meeting with the province on the future of the Visitor Information Centre lands.
- j) Took a ride on the ROAM inaugural Route 12 service to Grassi Lakes.
- k) With Mayor Krausert attended the monthly Midsized Cities Mayors Caucus meeting.
- l) Several members of admin and the Acting ED of CCH attended a meeting with the Partners for Affordable Housing.
- m) Attended the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators conference in Banff.

2. General Manager of Municipal Services

- a) Gave a presentation at the BOWDA May Luncheon on Risk Preparedness and Emergency Response.
- b) Participated in an evacuation planning workshop (May 27) alongside several other Town of Canmore staff and representatives from the Alberta Emergency Management Agency, Kananaskis Mountain Rescue, RCMP, ROAM Transit, and Volker Stevin.

3. General Manager of Corporate Services

- a) Meetings to secure financing for Canmore Community Housing projects in Stewart Creek and Palliser continued with the Manager of Finance, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and banking institutions.
- b) The GM of Corporate Services and the Manager of Facilities met with our representative from Alberta Municipalities to receive an update on the programs and services they offer to members including general insurance, energy procurement, advocacy, and employee benefits.

4. General Manager of Municipal Infrastructure

- a) Attended a Human Wildlife Coexistence Roundtable meeting with Mayor Krausert and attended a HWC Technical Working Group meeting.
- b) With the Corporate Strategic Team (CST) and representatives from Protective Services and Facilities, attended a second meeting with the RCMP to develop a project charter for the siting, design and construction of a new RCMP detachment.
- c) With representatives from Engineering, attended a series of engagement sessions with BOWDA representatives on the next iteration of the Engineering Design and Construction Guidelines.
- d) With the CAO, attended a meeting with Trans Alta to discuss their upcoming capital projects in Canmore.
- e) With other members of CST, attended the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA) conference in Banff.

B. MUNICIPAL SERVICES

1. Community Social Development

- a) As of end of May, 26 vehicles are registered with the Safe Park program. We began registering vehicles to park overnight in spots at the Canmore Recreation Centre parking lot June 1. Safe Park participants can access a temporary library card and may apply for the resident daytime parking permit. Participants are informed about the Voyent Alert app and the Town's Hazard monitoring webpage.
- b) The Town of Canmore, along with our community partners, celebrated a successful Seniors' Week, honouring the past, present and future contributions of Canmore's seniors.
- c) The Community Grants program has completed its process of accepting and adjudicating the 2024 grant applications. We received \$125,000 in requested funds by 30 applications. All \$30,000 in Community Grants funding will be divested.

2. Fire-Rescue

- a) Following valley bottom snow melt, FireSmart home assessments are underway for the season.
- b) Requests for fire inspections and occupancy loads are increasing due to the seasonal shift into summer business operations.

3. Protective Services

- a) Municipal Enforcement is focusing proactive patrols on stop signs and illegal camping enforcement during the month of June.
- b) The Community Emergency Preparedness guide will be published at canmore.ca/emergencypreparedness in July.
- c) As of May 28, the number of subscribers to Voyent! Alert was 3,332, up from 3006 in April.

- d) Public Safety and Emergency Services Minister Ellis introduced *Bill 21, the Emergency Statutes Amendment Act, 2024* into the Legislature in May. If passed, Bill 21 would introduce significant changes to several Acts. *Bill 21* proposed amendments to the *Emergency Management Act*, the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act*, the *Water Act*, the *Elections Act*, the *Alberta Senate Election Act*, and the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*. The proposed amendments to the *Emergency Management Act* will provide mechanisms to:

- Clarify and enhance the government’s legislative authority to assume control and manage emergencies during a state of local emergency, and
- Require local authorities to report information specified by the Minister during an event and introduces the authority to establish regulatory powers related to standardized reporting requirements.

There are several other consequential amendments to the *Emergency Management Act* that are in *Bill 21*, but they are all required to meet the intent outlined above.

4. Recreation Services

- a) Childminding at Elevation Place– July and August: The demand for childminding services has been historically low in the summer months while summer day camp programs are often at capacity. This summer, recreation services is reallocating existing childminding staff and space by piloting new day camp programs for 3 and 4 year olds. Childminding services will resume in the fall.

5. Economic Development

- a) Arts and Culture:
- National Indigenous Peoples Month activities included celebrations in Canmore on Saturday, June 15 from 10am – 4pm on the Civic Centre Plaza, and celebrations on National Indigenous Peoples Day on Friday, June 21 in Mini Thni at the pow wow. Free bus transportation to and from the Mini Thni pow wow will be offered to Canmore residents this year.
 - Canada Day: Monday, July 1st is Canada Day! You can expect many of the same fun festivities with a parade taking place from 12pm – 1:30pm down Main Street. New for this year, is that the parade will not include water fights. This change has been made in response to drought conditions in Alberta and requests from other levels of government for municipalities to engage in water conversation efforts.
 - Other community events on July 1st include the Rotary Club Pancake Breakfast, the Fun Run, and the Centennial Park Concert by the Pickleball Club.
 - Main Street Public Art - installations are underway in the Main Street Pedestrian zone.
 - Three Sisters Gallery (Elevation Place) – opens the Indigenous Perspectives art exhibition, hosting twenty-three (23) Indigenous art pieces from May 30- Aug 26
 - Cultural Advisory Committee has been working to define priority recommendations and actions regarding implementation of the 2020 - 2030 Cultural Master Plan. A report to Council will be provided in the fall of 2024.

C. CORPORATE SERVICES

1. Human Resources

- a) We'll see you after the Committee of the Whole Meeting for a Special Meeting of Council to receive recommendations from the first-ever Town of Canmore Council Remuneration Review Committee.
- b) The HR department is working with a 3rd party consultant Impact HR to administer an employee engagement survey, targeted to take place in Aug-Sept of this year, with reporting expected back to us in late Fall. This survey will help us to prioritize HR efforts within resources to forward to most meaningful and valuable initiatives within a long list of desired initiatives.
- c) We continue to maintain facilitated training in support of business plan priorities around Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and mental health/resiliency.

Training in May included:

- May 1 – Benefits Information Session facilitated by Brenda Roberts
- May 1 – Indigenous Cultural Awareness 1.0 - facilitated by SevGen
- May 2 – Foundations of DEI – facilitated by Harmony@Work
- May 8 & 22– New Employee Orientation - facilitated by HR
- May 14 – Customer De-escalation Training – facilitated by the Canadian Association of Mental Health (CAMH)
- May 27 – The Working Mind Employee Session – facilitated by the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC)

Scheduled training for June includes:

- June 3 - Indigenous Cultural Awareness Training 2.0 - facilitated by SevGen
- June 5, 12, 19, 26 – New Employee Orientation – facilitated by the HR team (extra sessions to accommodate the volume of seasonal staff)
- June 13 - Transformative Conversations – facilitated by Harmony@Work
- June 19 – Foundations of DEI – facilitate by Harmony@Work
- June 26 – Benefits Information Session – facilitated by Brenda Roberts

- d) Continuous review and documentation of processes and procedures:
 - In support of Livability Goal 1, Objective 2, the HR team has added to New Employee Orientation, the instructions and benefits of downloading the Voyent Alert App.
 - Work continues on the redesign of our Health & Safety Program, along with the documentation updates required on SharePoint online with both the transition to the new platform and the reorganization of documents to reduce duplication of work.
 - The new Health & Safety Committee is on track with two working group subcommittees tackling Wildfire and Smoke Exposure and Violence & Harassment Prevention

2. Finance

- a) 2024 Financial Update through April (see charts at the end of this document for Year to Date as of April 30)

Highlights from the Report:

General Municipal:

- Grants - Increase due to receiving the \$102k Low-Income Transit Pass Program grant proceeds for the period Nov 2023 to Jan 2024 and receiving the \$71k Clean Energy Improvement Program grant funding (offset in Transfer to Reserve).
- Borrowing Costs – Decrease due to timing of debt servicing payments for the new Fire Station.

Engineering and Planning and Development:

- Permits and Fines - Revenues are trending higher than budgeted, and most of the surplus remaining at the end of the year will be transferred to the Development Application reserve.

Public Works:

- Contracted Services - Decreased due to savings in snow and ice control costs from overall less snow accumulation than some other seasons.

Other Identified Trends:

- Legal costs are trending higher than anticipated at budget time.
- Based on forecasts received from the RCMP, we are anticipating the receipt of a significant credit later in the year, for the 2023/24 year, due to the RCMP's variances from their budget.

3. Communication

- a) Website statistics from January 1 to May 1 show that we have seen 123,000 users visit our site, averaging 1,100 per day, resulting in 385,000 pageviews. The number of users and pageviews are similar to the second half of 2023. The most frequently visited pages include the recreation calendar, our main landing page, parking information, and career opportunities. We continue to see most users accessing our website on mobile devices and tablets (approximately 65%).
- b) A grand opening celebration for the West Bow River Pathway was held on May 25. The celebration was important to recognize the role the path has in connecting our community, increasing safety and accessibility for all users, and providing a key multi-use and all-season connection.

D. MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Planning & Development

- a) Administration conducted a preapplication meeting for a subdivision application related to the Three Sisters Village Phase 1 Conceptual Scheme, which was approved by Council on April 23, 2024. Administration expects the subdivision application, which will encompass all of the Conceptual Scheme area, to be submitted by the end of June 2024.

2. Engineering Services

- a) Cougar Creek Long-term Mitigation (1545): two milestones were reached in May with the completion of blasting and the completion of sheetpile wall. The embankment construction reached a critical elevation of 1350m by end of May with full embankment completion planned in June. The project is on schedule for fall substantial completion.



- b) Bow Valley Trail and Teepee Town Rehab and Utilities (7297, 7323, 7324): Sanitary deep utility work is completed, water deep utility work underway. Some weather delays experienced in May due to precipitation. Deep utilities will be completed in June. Surface works are scheduled to begin in June. Project substantial completion is still expected by early fall, with landscaping continuing into 2025 per plan.
- c) Bus Stop Improvements (7301): Stop construction will resume in June. Minor adjustments due to changes in the seasonal route are being incorporated in the planned work. Shelters will be installed this year in two deliveries - late summer and fall.
- d) Street and Drainage Rehabilitation (7357): Palliser Trail rehabilitation construction underway with completion planned for June.

3. Facilities

- a) EP Waterslide Area Repairs (7376): Currently in procurement stage.
- b) Civic Centre Cooling (7227): Currently in procurement stage.
- c) Elevation Place Cooling Enhancements for Rooms 207,208 & 214 (7291): Currently in procurement stage. If sufficient budget is available to include the design recommendations for rooms 209 a/b, administration will seek Council approval to include this in the scope of work at the July Council meeting.

4. Public Works

- a) Parks
- The Government of Alberta directed reclamation project slated for the area behind Millenium Sport Field on leased land will commence soil testing activities in June. This phase aims to assess the soil conditions to determine measures needed to restore the site to a natural state.
 - Larch Rink Repairs: We are in the process of finalizing repair plans with the contractor. The anticipated cost for the repair is approximately \$13,000, which will be funded from the Parks operational budget. The contractor estimates the repair work to take between one and two weeks to complete. We are waiting for a confirmation of the start date.

b) Streets & Roads

- Street sweeping – the program finished on May 24th. Inclement weather including a heavy snowfall delayed an otherwise successful program delivery. Municipal Enforcement did an excellent job supporting Streets & Roads throughout the program.
- Pavement and Concrete Maintenance – Spray patch, crack seal, pavement patching, and concrete contractors are all in town during June to repair roadways and walking surfaces ahead of the Canada Day weekend.
- Paint and crosswalk bar installations along Main Street and at the “TIP20 intersection” on Bow Valley Trail normally completed by a contractor have been executed by Streets & Roads in 2024 for savings of approximately \$5,000.

c) Solid Waste Services

- Compost Give Away: 170 residents registered to pick up a load of compost from the Recreation Centre on May 7th and May 16th. This year the event was not staffed. The compost was left out and registrants came at their allotted time to collect their 100 litres of compost. This worked quite well with the pickups being orderly and there was more than enough compost for everyone who registered and a total of 22 cubic metres of compost were given away.

d) Utilities

- Regulatory: No contraventions to report.
- Operational Highlights
 - Ahead of the high ground water conditions, 233 sanitary manhole inspections and 596 catch basin inspections completed.
 - April 25th: There have been ongoing issues in the sanitary line for the Recreation Centre and curling rink. The line was examined, and large amounts of grease were discovered. Staff are working to ensure grease traps are being maintained regularly.
 - April 26th: A commercial property on Railway Avenue had a curbspot struck, opening the valve. EPCOR responded to shut off the water and place dechlorinated pucks to ensure potable water did not enter the drywell.
 - May 3rd: EPCOR responded to water surfacing on a property that had recently completed a home demolition. The contractor failed to schedule the water to be shut off and was issued a fine.
 - May 9th: A water line was struck during the BVT water line upgrade work. EPCOR responded and coordinated its repair.

e) Sustainability

- The Fruit Tree Removal Incentive program is open and accepting submissions. As of May 30th, 16 individuals have expressed interest in the program and 7 individuals have completed the removal of fruit bearing tree from their property. The program covers 100% of the cost of removal of fruit bearing vegetation up to \$500/property.

- Moving into elk calving and bear season, please remember to keep a safe distance from all wildlife (at least 3 bus lengths). If a bear or aggressive wildlife are spotted within Canmore please report to Kananaskis Emergency Services at 403-591-7755.
- The Affordable Services Program – e-bike Discount program closed on May 17th. All participants had to purchase their e-bike by this date. Following the May 17th deadline there was enough budget left over to allow one more Tier 1 and one Tier 2 program participant to receive a discount. A total of 24 individuals received an e-bike discount in 2024 and 97 people had applied for the program.

Town of Canmore
Summary of All Units
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
REVENUES					
Municipal Taxes	243	0	243	0%	34,881,584
Sales and Rentals	8,506,738	8,335,277	171,461	2%	30,724,533
Permits and Fines	2,284,242	1,549,772	734,470	47%	3,787,771
Internal Transfers	2,160,891	2,107,845	53,046	3%	2,373,719
Grants	585,886	406,180	179,706	44%	1,525,710
Transfers and Other	653,909	375,336	278,573	74%	3,707,220
Total Revenue	14,191,909	12,774,410	1,417,499	11%	77,000,537
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	8,054,857	8,657,841	(602,984)	(7%)	26,594,973
Admin and General Services	1,552,227	1,622,377	(70,150)	(4%)	2,876,150
Contracted Services	6,250,622	6,869,506	(618,884)	(9%)	19,989,033
Supplies and Energy	1,179,305	1,101,205	78,100	7%	4,847,996
Borrowing Costs	80,632	150,000	(69,368)	(46%)	5,866,080
Other	1,837	158	1,679	1063%	83,542
Transfer to Capital	0	0	0	0%	1,385,000
Transfer to Reserve	422,264	351,368	70,896	20%	10,952,012
Internal Transfers	2,160,891	2,092,783	68,108	3%	2,373,719
Transfer to Affiliated Orgs	1,476,184	1,476,184	0	0%	2,032,032
Total Expenditures	21,178,819	22,321,422	(1,142,603)	(5%)	77,000,537

See the following pages for details:

Please note:

The Town of Canmore periodic internal financial reports do not reflect accrual accounting. As such, there are timing variances due to differences between cash and accrual-based accounting.

Many reserve entries and transfers are not booked until year-end. Consequently, there are year-to-date variances related to flow-through reserve and funding entries not yet accounted for.

Town of Canmore
Summary of Town Operations (excl Utilities / SWS)
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
REVENUES					
Municipal Taxes	243	0	243	0%	34,881,584
Sales and Rentals	3,361,067	3,233,597	127,470	4%	12,069,374
Permits and Fines	2,284,242	1,549,772	734,470	47%	3,787,771
Internal Transfers	2,160,891	2,107,845	53,046	3%	2,373,719
Grants	585,886	406,180	179,706	44%	1,525,710
Transfers and Other	653,909	375,336	278,573	74%	3,467,220
Total Revenue	9,046,238	7,672,730	1,373,508	18%	58,105,378
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	7,511,252	8,117,811	(606,559)	(7%)	24,862,143
Admin and General Services	1,542,941	1,609,164	(66,223)	(4%)	2,826,382
Contracted Services	4,593,636	4,623,282	(29,646)	(1%)	13,072,200
Supplies and Energy	925,433	841,334	84,099	10%	3,555,814
Borrowing Costs	80,632	150,000	(69,368)	(46%)	2,059,696
Other	1,837	158	1,679	1063%	83,542
Transfer to Capital	0	0	0	0%	1,385,000
Transfer to Reserve	147,264	76,368	70,896	93%	7,233,394
Internal Transfers	1,078,485	1,042,690	35,795	3%	1,079,695
Transfer to Affiliated Orgs	1,476,184	1,476,184	0	0%	1,947,512
Total Expenditures	17,357,664	17,936,991	(579,327)	(3%)	58,105,378

See the following pages for details:

Town of Canmore
General Municipal
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
REVENUES					
Municipal Taxes	244	0	244	0%	34,431,584
Sales and Rentals	1,195,108	1,277,438	(82,330)	(6%)	4,119,250
Permits and Fines	48,587	48,668	(81)	(0%)	285,000
Grants	172,229	0	172,229	0%	200,000
Transfers and Other	343,732	343,100	632	0%	1,858,301
Total Revenue	1,759,900	1,669,206	90,694	5%	40,894,135
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	95,561	96,000	(439)	(0%)	(590,995)
Admin and General Services	1,048,983	1,047,807	1,176	0%	1,077,807
Contracted Services	0	0	0	0%	25,000
Borrowing Costs	80,632	150,000	(69,368)	(46%)	1,654,105
Other	0	0	0	0%	50,000
Transfer to Capital	0	0	0	0%	1,385,000
Transfer to Reserve	143,664	72,768	70,896	97%	6,115,001
Total Expenditures	1,368,840	1,366,575	2,265	0%	9,715,918
Net Surplus / Deficit	391,060	302,631	88,429	29%	31,178,217

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Sales and Rentals - decrease in ATCO and Fortis franchise fees due to warmer than anticipated winter. Any variance will be offset in Transfer to Reserve at year end.

Grants - increase is due to (1) receiving the \$102k Low-Income Transit Pass Program grant proceeds for the period Jan to Mar 2024 and (2) recording the \$71k CEIP grant (Clean Energy Improvement Program) funding received (offset below in Transfer to Reserve).

Borrowing Costs - decrease is due to timing of debt servicing payments for the new Fire Station. This variance will flow to year end.

Transfer to Reserve - increase is CEIP grant funding allocation to reserve (offset above in Grants).

Town of Canmore
Council
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	158,275	159,398	(1,123)	(1%)	490,168
Admin and General Services	35,308	33,706	1,602	5%	89,828
Contracted Services	5,938	4,000	1,938	48%	12,000
Supplies and Energy	2,379	2,332	47	2%	7,100
Other	0	0	0	0%	25,172
Total Expenditures	201,900	199,436	2,464	1%	624,268
Net Surplus / Deficit	(201,900)	(199,436)	(2,464)	1%	(624,268)

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

nothing to comment.

Town of Canmore
Corporate Administration Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	34,722	25,000	9,722	39%	75,000
Permits and Fines	300	2,500	(2,200)	(88%)	2,500
Internal Transfers	298,292	298,292	0	0%	298,292
Transfers and Other	4,176	4,050	126	3%	4,550
Total Revenue	337,490	329,842	7,648	2%	380,342
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	1,755,835	1,697,111	58,724	3%	5,252,174
Admin and General Services	182,082	194,631	(12,549)	(6%)	553,927
Contracted Services	905,568	882,802	22,766	3%	1,564,844
Supplies and Energy	5,633	17,154	(11,521)	(67%)	87,350
Other	95	50	45	90%	50
Total Expenditures	2,849,213	2,791,748	57,465	2%	7,458,345
Net Surplus / Deficit	(2,511,723)	(2,461,906)	(49,817)	2%	(7,078,003)

Rollup includes: Executive Office, Communications, Municipal Clerk's Office, Human Resources, Finance, Common Services and Information Technology

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Sales and Rentals - increase is due to volume of tax certificates and other fees.

Admin and General Services - decreased due to timing of general expenses in all areas.

Supplies and Energy - decreased due to timing of general expenses in all areas.

Town of Canmore
Municipal Services Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	1,823,541	1,632,136	191,405	12%	6,936,999
Permits and Fines	834,627	837,728	(3,101)	(0%)	1,517,671
Internal Transfers	36,363	0	36,363	0%	0
Grants	413,657	406,180	7,477	2%	1,105,710
Transfers and Other	306,002	28,186	277,816	986%	358,278
Total Revenue	3,414,190	2,904,230	509,960	18%	9,918,658
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	3,175,748	3,443,331	(267,583)	(8%)	10,925,610
Admin and General Services	164,131	198,476	(34,345)	(17%)	803,580
Contracted Services	239,399	167,045	72,354	43%	4,926,000
Supplies and Energy	199,934	194,871	5,063	3%	556,535
Other	1,721	108	1,613	1494%	320
Transfer to Reserve	3,600	3,600	0	0%	1,118,393
Internal Transfers	1,078,485	1,042,690	35,795	3%	1,079,695
Total Expenditures	4,863,018	5,050,121	(187,103)	(4%)	19,410,133
Net Surplus / Deficit	(1,448,828)	(2,145,891)	697,063	(32%)	(9,491,475)

See following departmental sheets for details:

Economic Development Rollup
Community Social Development Rollup
Protective Services Rollup
Recreation Rollup

Town of Canmore
Economic Development Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Permits and Fines	529,212	541,976	(12,764)	(2%)	555,921
Transfers and Other	16,575	19,686	(3,111)	(16%)	56,480
Total Revenue	545,787	561,662	(15,875)	(3%)	612,401
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	206,756	239,582	(32,826)	(14%)	752,774
Admin and General Services	32,175	46,706	(14,531)	(31%)	203,880
Contracted Services	18,643	33,757	(15,114)	(45%)	130,575
Supplies and Energy	4,676	14,711	(10,035)	(68%)	37,450
Transfer to Reserve	0	0	0	0%	41,534
Total Expenditures	262,250	334,756	(72,506)	(22%)	1,166,213
Net Surplus / Deficit	283,537	226,906	56,631	25%	(553,812)

Rollup includes: Economic Development and Arts & Events

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Salaries, Wages and Benefits - decrease is due to position vacancies.

Admin and General Services - decreased due to timing of general expenses.

Contracted Services - decreased due to timing of general expenses.

Supplies and Energy - decreased due to timing of general expenses primarily in A&E.

Town of Canmore
Community Social Development Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	6,522	6,168	354	6%	63,435
Internal Transfers	36,363	0	36,363	0%	0
Grants	413,657	406,180	7,477	2%	677,710
Transfers and Other	251,996	8,500	243,496	2865%	24,298
Total Revenue	708,538	420,848	287,690	68%	765,443
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	408,936	427,418	(18,482)	(4%)	1,333,271
Admin and General Services	9,555	11,294	(1,739)	(15%)	31,150
Contracted Services	93,210	6,876	86,334	1256%	22,800
Supplies and Energy	86,294	41,146	45,148	110%	125,802
Other	1,721	108	1,613	1494%	320
Transfer to Reserve	3,600	3,600	0	0%	3,600
Internal Transfers	36,363	0	36,363	0%	0
Total Expenditures	639,679	490,442	149,237	30%	1,516,943
Net Surplus / Deficit	68,859	(69,594)	138,453	(199%)	(751,500)

Rollup includes: CSD Administration, FCSS and Family Connection Centre (FCC)

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Internal Transfers - transfer required to facilitate FCC year end reporting (offset below in Internal Transfers).

Transfers and Other - increased from (1) FCC & FCSS grant funds received in prior year for use in Q1 2024 and (2) Homeless Society of the Bow Valley (HSBV) program funding received for use in Q1 (offset below).

Contracted Services - increased due to HSBV program expenses (offset with funding above).

Supplies and Energy - increased due to HSBV program expenses (offset with funding above) as well as timing of general expenses in all areas.

Internal Transfers - transfer required to facilitate FCC year end reporting (offset above in Internal Transfers).

Town of Canmore
Protective Services Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	397,224	300,900	96,324	32%	2,730,500
Permits and Fines	305,415	295,752	9,663	3%	961,750
Grants	0	0	0	0%	428,000
Transfers and Other	36,157	0	36,157	0%	277,500
Total Revenue	738,796	596,652	142,144	24%	4,397,750
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	1,424,146	1,535,387	(111,241)	(7%)	4,830,715
Admin and General Services	68,831	84,121	(15,290)	(18%)	417,255
Contracted Services	119,805	119,380	425	0%	4,705,325
Supplies and Energy	30,669	68,112	(37,443)	(55%)	199,445
Transfer to Reserve	0	0	0	0%	1,073,259
Internal Transfers	1,042,122	1,042,690	(568)	(0%)	1,079,695
Total Expenditures	2,685,573	2,849,690	(164,117)	(6%)	12,305,694
Net Surplus / Deficit	(1,946,777)	(2,253,038)	306,261	(14%)	(7,907,944)

Rollup includes: RCMP Policing, Municipal Enforcement and Fire-Rescue

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Sales and Rentals - higher revenue than budget is a result of paid parking program vs. budget assumptions.

Transfers and Other - increase is from receiving financial support from Alberta Health Services (AHS) as part of the Alberta Medical Response Program (MFR).

Salaries, Wages and Benefits - decrease is primarily due to timing and call volume in Fire-Rescue.

Admin and General Services - decreased due to timing of general expenses in Fire-Rescue.

Supplies and Energy - decrease due to timing of general expenses in all areas.

Town of Canmore
Recreation Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	1,419,795	1,325,068	94,727	7%	4,143,064
Transfers and Other	1,274	0	1,274	0%	0
Total Revenue	1,421,069	1,325,068	96,001	7%	4,143,064
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	1,135,910	1,240,944	(105,034)	(8%)	4,008,850
Admin and General Services	53,570	56,355	(2,785)	(5%)	151,295
Contracted Services	7,741	7,032	709	10%	67,300
Supplies and Energy	78,295	70,902	7,393	10%	193,838
Total Expenditures	1,275,516	1,375,233	(99,717)	(7%)	4,421,283
Net Surplus / Deficit	145,553	(50,165)	195,718	(390%)	(278,219)

Rollup includes: Recreation Admin and Rentals, Aquatics, Climbing, Recreation Programs and Fitness

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Sales and Rentals - Memberships have been higher than anticipated so far this year and are expected to align with the budget over the summer months.

Salaries, Wages and Benefits - decreased due to vacancies and adjusting staffing to business volumes.

Supplies and Energy - increased due to equipment replacements and repairs from use and age of equipment.

Town of Canmore
Municipal Infrastructure Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	307,695	299,023	8,672	3%	938,125
Permits and Fines	1,400,728	660,876	739,852	112%	1,982,600
Internal Transfers	795,991	779,308	16,683	2%	1,045,182
Grants	0	0	0	0%	220,000
Transfers and Other	0	0	0	0%	590,500
Total Revenue	2,504,414	1,739,207	765,207	44%	4,776,407
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	2,325,833	2,721,971	(396,138)	(15%)	8,785,186
Admin and General Services	38,626	56,249	(17,623)	(31%)	197,945
Contracted Services	689,181	814,654	(125,473)	(15%)	3,769,575
Supplies and Energy	717,487	626,977	90,510	14%	2,904,829
Other	21	0	21	0%	8,000
Total Expenditures	3,771,148	4,219,851	(448,703)	(11%)	15,665,535
Net Surplus / Deficit	(1,266,734)	(2,480,644)	1,213,910	(49%)	(10,889,128)

See following departmental sheets for details:

Engineering
Planning & Development
Facilities Rollup
Public Works Rollup

Town of Canmore
Engineering
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	13,081	7,166	5,915	83%	7,166
Permits and Fines	100,393	43,336	57,057	132%	130,000
Internal Transfers	243,770	243,770	0	0%	243,770
Transfers and Other	0	0	0	0%	120,000
Total Revenue	357,244	294,272	62,972	21%	500,936
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	415,695	418,808	(3,113)	(1%)	1,298,686
Admin and General Services	6,643	6,724	(81)	(1%)	21,975
Contracted Services	35,635	18,332	17,303	94%	55,000
Supplies and Energy	206	1,713	(1,507)	(88%)	5,350
Total Expenditures	458,179	445,577	12,602	3%	1,381,011
Net Surplus / Deficit	(100,935)	(151,305)	50,370	(33%)	(880,075)

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Sales and Rentals - annual lease revenue is higher than budget.

Permits and Fines - increase is due to higher volume of engineering development permit activity .

Contracted Services - increase is due to requiring more professional engineering services than budget.

Town of Canmore
Planning & Development
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	40,050	41,168	(1,118)	(3%)	64,500
Permits and Fines	1,300,335	617,540	682,795	111%	1,852,600
Transfers and Other	0	0	0	0%	120,000
Total Revenue	1,340,385	658,708	681,677	103%	2,037,100
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	399,885	550,576	(150,691)	(27%)	1,704,089
Admin and General Services	15,386	28,788	(13,402)	(47%)	93,770
Contracted Services	83,441	67,100	16,341	24%	201,300
Supplies and Energy	224	648	(424)	(65%)	1,950
Other	21	0	21	0%	0
Total Expenditures	498,957	647,112	(148,155)	(23%)	2,001,109
Net Surplus / Deficit	841,428	11,596	829,832	7156%	35,991

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Permits and Fines - increased from volume of building permit activity primarily from five large developments.

Salaries, Wages and Benefits - decrease is due to position vacancies.

Admin and General Services - decreased due to timing of general expenses.

Contracted Services - increase is due to contracted staffing support (offset in SWB).

Town of Canmore
Facilities Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	234,997	229,689	5,308	2%	593,679
Internal Transfers	74,974	74,974	0	0%	74,974
Total Revenue	309,971	304,663	5,308	2%	668,653
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	811,010	914,287	(103,277)	(11%)	2,842,896
Admin and General Services	5,254	7,199	(1,945)	(27%)	21,280
Contracted Services	217,061	264,890	(47,829)	(18%)	905,206
Supplies and Energy	310,700	264,484	46,216	17%	1,311,318
Total Expenditures	1,344,025	1,450,860	(106,835)	(7%)	5,080,700
Net Surplus / Deficit	(1,034,054)	(1,146,197)	112,143	(10%)	(4,412,047)

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Salaries, Wages and Benefits - decrease is due to position vacancies.

Contracted Services - decreased due to timing of contracted repairs & maintenance.

Supplies and Energy - increase is due to timing of supplies expenses.

Town of Canmore
Public Works Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	19,567	21,000	(1,433)	(7%)	272,780
Internal Transfers	477,247	460,564	16,683	4%	726,438
Grants	0	0	0	0%	220,000
Transfers and Other	0	0	0	0%	350,500
Total Revenue	496,814	481,564	15,250	3%	1,569,718
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	699,243	838,300	(139,057)	(17%)	2,939,515
Admin and General Services	11,343	13,538	(2,195)	(16%)	60,920
Contracted Services	353,044	464,332	(111,288)	(24%)	2,608,069
Supplies and Energy	406,358	360,132	46,226	13%	1,586,211
Other	0	0	0	0%	8,000
Total Expenditures	1,469,988	1,676,302	(206,314)	(12%)	7,202,715
Net Surplus / Deficit	(973,174)	(1,194,738)	221,564	(19%)	(5,632,997)

Rollup includes: Public Works Administration and Sustainability, Parks, Streets and Roads

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Salaries, Wages and Benefits - decreased primarily due to position vacancies and timing of seasonal Park staff.

Contracted Services - decreased due to (1) YTD savings in snow and ice control costs - overall less snow accumulation than some other seasons and (2) timing of contracted maintenance and equipment repairs.

Supplies and Energy - increase is primarily from heavy fleet supplies for Solid Waste Services equipment repairs. (partially offset in Internal Transfers)

Town of Canmore
Solid Waste Services Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	1,348,908	1,365,238	(16,330)	(1%)	4,741,598
Total Revenue	1,348,908	1,365,238	(16,330)	(1%)	4,741,598
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries, Wages and Benefits	543,604	540,030	3,574	1%	1,732,830
Admin and General Services	1,062	4,513	(3,451)	(76%)	23,675
Contracted Services	181,384	371,076	(189,692)	(51%)	1,113,828
Supplies and Energy	51,873	54,824	(2,951)	(5%)	154,500
Borrowing Costs	0	0	0	0%	389,479
Transfer to Reserve	275,000	275,000	0	0%	671,492
Internal Transfers	359,656	327,343	32,313	10%	571,274
Transfer to Affiliated Orgs	0	0	0	0%	84,520
Total Expenditures	1,412,579	1,572,786	(160,207)	(10%)	4,741,598
Net Surplus / Deficit	(63,671)	(207,548)	143,877	(69%)	0

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Contracted Services - decreased primarily due to timing of hauling, recycling fees and equipment repairs.

Internal Transfers - increase reflects transfers to Fleet Services for repairs and fuel costs.

Town of Canmore
Water Utility Rollup
as at April 30, 2024

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	2024 Annual Budget
REVENUES					
Sales and Rentals	3,796,763	3,736,442	60,321	2%	13,913,561
Transfers and Other	0	0	0	0%	240,000
Total Revenue	3,796,763	3,736,442	60,321	2%	14,153,561
EXPENDITURES					
Admin and General Services	8,224	8,700	(476)	(5%)	26,093
Contracted Services	1,475,603	1,875,148	(399,545)	(21%)	5,803,005
Supplies and Energy	202,000	205,047	(3,047)	(1%)	1,137,682
Borrowing Costs	0	0	0	0%	3,416,905
Transfer to Reserve	0	0	0	0%	3,047,126
Internal Transfers	722,750	722,750	0	0%	722,750
Total Expenditures	2,408,577	2,811,645	(403,068)	(14%)	14,153,561
Net Surplus / Deficit	1,388,186	924,797	463,389	50%	0

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

Contracted Services - decreased due to timing of Epcor billing cycle. Also additional services such as rehab work, leak detection & repair etc. typically happen later in the year.

Town of Canmore
Transit
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
REVENUES					
Internal Transfers	1,030,245	1,030,245	0	0%	1,030,245
Total Revenue	1,030,245	1,030,245	0	0%	1,030,245
EXPENDITURES					
Contracted Services	2,493,551	2,494,781	(1,230)	(0%)	2,514,781
Total Expenditures	2,493,551	2,494,781	(1,230)	(0%)	2,514,781
Net Surplus / Deficit	(1,463,306)	(1,464,536)	1,230	(0%)	(1,484,536)

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

nothing to comment.

Town of Canmore
Library
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
EXPENDITURES					
Admin and General Services	73,812	78,295	(4,483)	(6%)	103,295
Transfer to Affiliated Orgs	1,004,859	1,004,859	0	0%	1,004,859
Total Expenditures	1,078,671	1,083,154	(4,483)	(0%)	1,108,154
Net Surplus / Deficit	(1,078,671)	(1,083,154)	4,483	(0%)	(1,108,154)

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

nothing to comment.

Town of Canmore
CCH / Housing
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
REVENUES					
Municipal Taxes	(1)	0	(1)	0%	450,000
Transfers and Other	0	0	0	0%	655,591
Total Revenue	(1)	0	(1)	0%	1,105,591
EXPENDITURES					
Borrowing Costs	0	0	0	0%	405,591
Transfer to Affiliated Orgs	350,000	350,000	0	0%	700,000
Total Expenditures	350,000	350,000	0	0%	1,105,591
Net Surplus / Deficit	(350,001)	(350,000)	(1)	0%	0

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

nothing to comment.

Town of Canmore
Museum
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
EXPENDITURES					
Transfer to Affiliated Orgs	121,325	121,325	0	0%	242,653
Total Expenditures	121,325	121,325	0	0%	242,653
Net Surplus / Deficit	(121,325)	(121,325)	0	0%	(242,653)

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

nothing to comment.

Town of Canmore
artsPlace
as at April 30, 2024

	2024	2024			2024 Annual
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance \$	Variance %	Budget
EXPENDITURES					
Contracted Services	260,000	260,000	0	0%	260,000
Total Expenditures	260,000	260,000	0	0%	260,000
Net Surplus / Deficit	(260,000)	(260,000)	0	0%	(260,000)

Notes on variances of \$5,000 and 5% from Budget:

nothing to comment.

Council Resolution Action List

G1

Motion #	Agenda Item	Resolution	Council Mtg Date	Service Area	Action Status	Last Update	Date Complete
99-2021	MOU with Stoney Nakoda	Direct administration to investigate and report back on the scope, process and resources needed to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Stoney Nakoda Nation.	27-Apr-21	CST	The Stoney Nakoda Nation have indicated that they would like access to lands within the Town of Canmore boundaries for cultural ceremonies. This would help build relationships that will assist with establishing an MOU. Council approved a request to advance this work at the Sept 7, 2021 council meeting. Administration continues to reach out to the Stoney Nakoda Administration to advance this work.	1-May-24	
216-2021	Advancing Truth and Reconciliation with the Stoney Nakoda Nation	Direct administration to work with the Stoney Nakoda Nation to identify lands within the Town of Canmore boundaries that would be appropriate for cultural ceremonies and assist with any necessary agreements for the use of these lands.	7-Sep-21	CST	Work is ongoing. The next step for this item rests with the Stoney Nakoda Nation.	1-May-24	
122-2023	Housing Action Plan	Direct administration to investigate and report back on changes to residential districts in the Land Use Bylaw that can facilitate provision of additional housing supply.	6-Jun-23	CST	Administration intends to commence this work in 2024.	24-Apr-24	
124-2023	Housing Action Plan	Direct administration to report back on options and funding required for adding a comprehensive planning process to establish parameters to consider infill, or "missing middle" housing opportunities in established neighbourhoods and explore options for eliminating single detached dwellings.	6-Jun-23	CST	Administration intends to commence this work in 2024.	2-Jan-24	
193-2023	2023 Capital Budget Amendment Large Item Collection Vehicle	Direct administration to return during the 2025 budget process with a review of the large-item pickup service level and provide recommendations on ways to increase potential circular economy opportunities to expand the reuse and sharing economy for residents.	15-Aug-23	Solid Waste	Work will occur in 2024 as part of the 2025 budget development.	2-Jan-24	
200-2023	Retail Gap Analysis and Light Industrial and Commercial Land Review	Direct administration to return with recommended amendments to the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan to discourage the provision of employee housing in industrial districts.	5-Sep-23	Planning	Planning will bring forward recommended amendments in Q3 2024.	6-Mar-24	
208-2023	LUB Amendment 2023-20 – CPC Authority and Referrals and Subdivision Authority (DA), and CPC Establishment Bylaw Amendment 2023-28 – DA and CPC	Direct administration to return by June 2024 with options to remove, where feasible, naming of Council and Canmore Planning Commission as the Development Authority from Direct Control Districts within the Land Use Bylaw and replace it with the Development Officer	5-Sep-23	Planning	The first set of amendments were approved in March 2024. Additional amendments will come forward later in the year.	6-Mar-24	
254-2023	Committee Appointments	Direct administration to bring a Code of Conduct for Council Appointees to Council for consideration.	24-Oct-23	CST	Administration has reviewed examples from other communities and intends to bring a report to Council in Q3 2024.	1-May-24	
48-2023FIN	Follow-Up and Budget Deliberations	Direct administration to advise Council when the \$10,000 fruit tree incentive program is fully subscribed for 2024.	14-Nov-23	Public Works Admin	Council approved an increase to the budget by an additional \$50k at the March 5 business meeting so this follow up on the \$10k is no longer needed.	21-May-24	18-Jun-24
17-2024	Livability Task Force Update	Accept the Livability Task Force's recommendations for information as presented and direct administration to develop an implementation plan.	9-Jan-24	CST	Administration is providing updates on this work at the May and June COW meetings.	24-Apr-24	18-Jun-24
30-2024	Further Exploration of Fireworks	That Council direct administration to report back to Council on the following matters by June 4, 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential alternatives to having fireworks on Canada Day and New Year's Eve that do not pose a wildfire risk and have less potential impact on wildlife, pets, and people, including the estimated costs; • Advice on increasing the fines as set out in Fireworks Ban Bylaw 2023-23 from \$5,000 per occurrence to \$10,000 per occurrence; and • Options for enhancing awareness and municipal enforcement with respect to illegal fireworks, including the estimated costs. 	13-Feb-24	Municipal Services	A report was brought to the June 4, 2024 Council Meeting.	21-May-24	18-Jun-24
45-2024	Municipal Election Sign Options	That Council direct administration to prepare: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an Election Sign Bylaw that restricts political campaign signs to private property, and • an amendment to the Town's Land Use Bylaw to remove the political campaign signs section. 	5-Mar-24	Municipal Enforcement	Administration brought forward the Bylaw and LUB changes at the June 4 Business meeting.	21-May-24	18-Jun-24



Correspondence

DATE OF MEETING:

June 18, 2024

Agenda #: H

- 1. To Premier Smith and Minister McIver re Bills 18 and 20**
- 2. To Premier Smith re Clarify Funding for Municipalities**
- 3. From Minister McIver re Bill 20 House Amendments**
- 4. From Minister McIver re 2024 LGFF Funding**

May 15, 2024

Via Email:
premier@gov.ab.ca
minister.municipalaffairs@gov.ab.ca

The Honourable Danielle Smith, MLA
Office of the Premier
Government of Alberta

The Honourable Ric McIver, MLA
Minister of Municipal Affairs
Government of Alberta

Dear Premier Smith and Minister McIver,

RE: Comments on Bills 18 and 20

These bills recently introduced in the Alberta Legislative Assembly will have significant adverse impact on local governance in Alberta. While the precise impact of Bill 18 will largely be determined by the regulations, which will hopefully include municipalities in their drafting, the costs of Bill 20 far outweigh its benefits and should be rescinded.

On May 7, 2024, Town of Canmore Council unanimously passed the following motion:

That Council direct Mayor Krausert to provide feedback to the Province on Bill 18 and Bill 20.

Re Bill 18

Without greater detail as to the regulations, at first glance this bill seems to be unnecessary red tape that will hinder federal funding flowing to Alberta municipalities. The Town of Canmore encourages the provincial government to include municipal input into the drafting of regulations in a meaningful way to ensure that Alberta municipalities receive their fair share of federal funding in a way that respects the priorities of Albertans. At a time when we are facing priorities of local infrastructure funding, a shortage of affordable housing, sharp increases to cost of living, and a health-care crisis we need more collaboration between the upper levels of government and greater ease in money flowing to our communities to meet the challenges we face.

Re Bill 20

The Town of Canmore has serious concerns about Bill 20's proposed legislative amendments, including:

- as a result of allowing political parties at the municipal level, divisiveness will increase within council and our community instead of encouraging collaborative decision-making to solve the future challenges our community faces;
- the expanded provincial powers will cause the prioritization of the interests of the provincial cabinet over the interests of local residents;
- re-opening the door to corporate campaign donations to local candidates will increase the influence of corporations and unions in municipal government, which will potentially

overshadow the interests of everyday Albertans who cannot afford to donate large sums of money to political campaigns;

- as corporations can write-off campaign donations while individuals cannot, such will create tax inequities between individuals and corporations as it relates to donations to municipal candidates;
- giving power to the provincial cabinet to remove a councillor without clear criteria creates an environment where councillors will become more accountable to provincial government leaders instead of our local residents;
- costs will be increased for property taxpayers by forcing a hand count of election results instead of allowing the use of proven and more cost-effective electronic equipment;
- costs will be increased for property taxpayers by forcing our municipality to create and regularly maintain a permanent electors register;
- claiming a perceived conflict of interest opens the door for some councillors to avoid making politically challenging decisions in council;
- not allowing studies for development outside certain prescribed ones results in the inability to understand the true impact of a development where there are unique circumstances that should be considered;
- failure to address the fundamental flaws of the current recall rules destabilizes the local political environment;
- failure to give municipalities the option to require candidates to file financial disclosures prior to election day; and
- there will undoubtedly be unforeseen consequences of this legislation due to short window provided and the lack of full input from municipal governments.

Without doubt, there are beneficial amendments proposed in Bill 20, including – aligning councillor eligibility criteria with disqualification criteria, limiting donations to third party advertisers, repealing municipalities authority to develop voters lists, enabling regulation to postpone elections during emergencies, expanding use of special ballots while strengthening the special ballot system, and requiring a recount if requested when the margin of victory in an election is within 0.5% of the total votes cast. However, unless the above concerns are significantly addressed or struck from the legislation, the overall costs to local governance far outweigh these benefits.

Thank-you for consideration of this feedback.

Sincerely,



Sean Krausert (he/him)
Mayor

cc via email *MLA Rachel Notley, Leader of the Opposition*
 MLA Kyle Kasawski, Opposition Critic for Municipal Affairs
 MLA Sarah Elmeligi
 Town of Canmore Council
 Dr. Sally Caudill, CAO (Town of Canmore)

May 13, 2024

Honourable Danielle Smith, ECA
Premier and Minister of Intergovernmental Relations
307 Legislature Building
10800 97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

Dear Premier Smith:

Thank you for attending and speaking at Alberta Municipalities' Spring 2024 Municipal Leaders' Caucus in Edmonton on March 15, 2024. We sincerely appreciated you were willing to take questions from audience members and even extend your time to converse on matters that are important to municipal leaders.

During your address to the audience, you stated that the Government of Alberta will provide \$3.6 billion in capital funding support to municipal governments in 2024 consisting of:

- \$2.23 billion in municipal infrastructure support,
- \$577 million in capital maintenance and support,
- \$708 million in roads and bridges, and
- \$95 million in additional projects.

During that same speech you promoted that this funding support represents \$900 million more in funding than what the Government of Alberta will requisition from municipalities in 2024 through provincial property taxes.

Following the event, several of our members contacted our association seeking clarity on the figures. Based on our findings, we wanted to bring to your attention that only 48 per cent of that \$3.6 billion expenditure represents provincial funding for municipal governments. In the enclosure to this letter, we breakdown the numbers which involves:

Provincial Funding for Municipalities	(\$ millions)
Provincial funding programs for municipalities (\$722 million in Local Government Fiscal Framework Capital funding and \$188 million through competitive application programs).	910
Provincial funding for one-off municipal projects (not part of a formal funding program).	819
	\$1,729
Federal Funding for Municipalities & Provincial Expense on Provincial Infrastructure	
Funding from the Government of Canada that flows through the Government of Alberta to municipalities.	764
Provincial expenditures on provincially-owned highways and bridges, which are unrelated to the scope of municipal government operations.	1,116
	\$1,880
Total Quoted Expenditure	\$3,609

With \$1.88 billion of the \$3.61 billion consisting of a combination of federal funding for municipalities and provincial spending on provincial infrastructure, this means that only \$1.73 billion is the total provincial capital funding contribution to municipal governments in 2024. This highlights how total capital funding from the province is actually \$1 billion less than the \$2.7 billion that the Government of Alberta will requisition from municipalities this year. This demonstrates another reason that the starting amount of the Local Government Fiscal Framework Capital funding should have been set at \$1.7 billion instead of \$722 million.

Review of the Provincial Property Tax System

We share this information to bring clarity to the clear inequity between funding to municipalities and provincial property taxes that are requisitioned from municipalities. This is why we applaud that your mandate letter to the Honourable Ric Mclver, Minister of Municipal Affairs, includes the initiative to review how the provincial property tax system can be changed to enable municipalities to retain more funding.

We optimistically wait for the result of that review to be shared and look forward to receiving an update on the expected timing.

If you wish to set up a meeting to discuss this or any other matter related to municipalities, I invite you to contact me by email at president@abmunis.ca or on my cell phone at (780) 312-0660.

Sincerely,



Tyler Gandam
President, Alberta Municipalities

CC: Honourable Nate Horner, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance
Honourable Ric Mclver, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Paul McLauchlin, President, Rural Municipalities of Alberta

Enclosure

ABmunis' Breakdown of Premier Smith's Quoted \$3.6 Billion in Funding for Municipalities

(\$ millions)	2024 Budget	% of Total
Provincial Programs for Municipal Infrastructure		
Local Government Fiscal Framework Capital	\$722	20.0%
Municipal Water and Wastewater Partnership	66	1.8%
Water for Life	50	1.4%
Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program	44	1.2%
Local Growth and Sustainability Grant	20	0.6%
First Nations Water Tie-In	8	0.2%
	\$910	25.2%
One-Off Provincial Funding for Municipal Infrastructure (Not part of a formal funding program)		
Provincial portion of Edmonton and Calgary LRT ¹	425	11.8%
Calgary Deerfoot Trail upgrades	156	4.3%
Calgary River District and Event Centre	88	2.4%
Edmonton Terwilligar expansion	50	1.4%
Edmonton Yellowhead Trail	50	1.4%
Edmonton 50 th Street	8	0.2%
YYC Rail Connection	2	0.1%
<i>Projects Outside Calgary and Edmonton</i>		
Red Deer Regional Airport Expansion	20	0.6%
Capital Region Wastewater Treatment	10	0.3%
Fox Lake Access Improvement	6	0.2%
Designated Industrial Zone Pilot Project	4	0.1%
	\$819	22.7%
Federal Funding for Municipal Infrastructure that Flows Through the Government of Alberta		
Federal portion of Edmonton and Calgary LRT ¹	425	11.8%
Canada Community Building Fund	265	7.4%
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program	73	2.0%
Clean Water and Wastewater Fund	1	0.0%
	\$764	21.2%
Provincial Investments in Provincial Highways and Bridges		
Highway rehabilitation projects	352	9.7%
Highway twinning, widening, expansion	151	4.2%
Bridge construction projects	121	3.4%
Edmonton/Calgary Ring Roads	73	2.0%
Highway 3 twinning (Taber to Burdett)	65	1.8%
Major maintenance	45	1.2%
P3 Ring Road Maintenance	39	1.1%
Multiple engineering projects	29	0.8%
Highway twinning south of Grande Prairie	24	0.7%
Slide repairs	21	0.6%
Highway 16A and RR20 intersection	20	0.6%
Highway 11 twinning (Red Deer to Rocky Mountain House)	17	0.5%
Highway 40 grade widening (Grande Cache to Hinton)	15	0.4%
Highway 201 Bow River Bridge on SE Stony Trail	14	0.4%
Other projects	131	3.6%
	\$1,116	30.9%
Total	\$3,609	100.0%

¹ \$425 million is an estimate based on news releases indicating that funding from the Government of Canada and Government of Alberta were about evenly split for each Calgary and Edmonton LRT project.



ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister**MLA, Calgary-Hays*

May 24, 2024

Dear Chief Elected Official

As you are aware, I recently introduced Bill 20: the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024 which proposes to modify two key pieces of legislation for Alberta municipalities – the Municipal Government Act (MGA) and the Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA). The proposed legislation will help municipalities accelerate housing development, strengthen provincial oversight, and update the rules for local elections and locally elected officials.

Firstly, I want to recognize the passionate and constructive feedback I have received from the many mayors, reeves, councillors, and school board trustees across the province over the past few weeks. Your involvement and ardent commentary are a testament to your good work as public servants.

I've heard your concerns and at the May 23, 2024, Committee of the Whole, amendments to Bill 20 were tabled to further clarify the intent of this bill and ensure that locally elected municipal governments will continue to govern in response to the priorities and interests of their residents.

Bill 20 will maintain the municipal ability to govern affairs within local jurisdiction while allowing Cabinet to step in when municipal bylaw crosses into provincial jurisdiction. This will ensure that municipal councils remain focused on municipal issues that their constituents elected them to address. Cabinet's authority to intervene in municipal bylaws will be considered as a last resort; I anticipate that this power will be used very rarely, if ever. As you may know, the ability for the provincial government to repeal or amend bylaws, or dismiss councillors is not new, as municipalities receive their authority from the provincial government as laid out in Canada's Constitution and Alberta's MGA. While Bill 20 proposes to update the process for the provincial government to act more quickly in extenuating, urgent circumstances, these are not new powers.

These amendments will provide additional guardrails for when municipal bylaws can be repealed through the Cabinet process, and remove the direct ability for Cabinet to dismiss a councillor. Cabinet would retain the authority to have a vote of the electors on the potential removal of a councillor, putting this choice back into the hands of the voters.

We have also received a number of questions about some of the changes to the LAEA regarding fundraising. Bill 20 will also increase transparency in campaign financing. Under the old rules, the LAEA only regulated Third Party Advertisers (TPAs) who advertised for the promotion or opposition of a candidate during an election, with donations to such entities limited to a maximum of \$30,000 for all individuals, unions, and corporations. The proposed changes require TPAs who are interested in an issue (rather than a specific candidate) to register and report their finances. We are further proposing to restrict contributions to \$5,000, and for

.../2

- 2 -

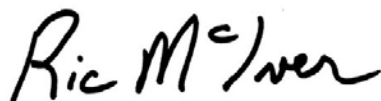
contributions to only be made by Albertans, Alberta companies, or Alberta unions. We are also proposing to further develop expense limits in the regulations.

Currently, municipal candidates are able to organize into political parties or slates without any rules around their organization. Adding rules around political parties will increase transparency for electors. Bill 20 will provide rules around enabling local candidates to identify with local political parties without direct affiliation to provincial or federal parties. I have publicly stated my intention to implement the option to include municipal political party affiliation on ballots only in the cities of Edmonton and Calgary. I will also note that any that no candidate will be required to join a political party - they will always remain voluntary and local.

I will continue to consider feedback as I bring Bill 20 through the legislative process. Alberta's government remains committed to fairness and due process and will continue working with local authorities to ensure Albertans have the effective local representation they deserve. Should the legislation pass, Municipal Affairs will be engaging with municipalities and stakeholders over the coming months to explain the changes Bill 20 will require at a local level, and develop regulations as required.

Please find enclosed the Bill 20 Fact Sheet, which can be found on the Government of Alberta website. This document offers clarifications on what Bill 20 means for municipalities and how the changes will impact municipal governments. For more information, please visit: www.alberta.ca/strengthening-local-elections-and-councils.

Sincerely,



Ric McIver
Minister

Attachment: Bill 20 – Fact Sheet

Bill 20 – *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024* (AMENDED)

The proposed *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024*, would make changes to two key pieces of municipal-related legislation: the *Local Authorities Elections Act (LAEA)* and the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*.

- The **LAEA** establishes the framework for the conduct of elections in Alberta municipalities, school divisions, irrigation districts, and Metis Settlements.
- The **MGA** establishes the rules governing the conduct of local elected officials once on council, as well as the overall administration and operation of municipal authorities in Alberta.

On May 23, 2024, amendments were tabled to more clearly outline the authorities to dismiss a councillor and repeal a bylaw.

Changes to local election rules under the LAEA

Proposed changes to the *LAEA* aim to add greater transparency to and trust in local election processes.

Description of Proposed Changes	Current Status
Align candidate eligibility criteria with councillor disqualification criteria in the <i>MGA</i> .	Candidates elected to council may face immediate disqualification due to misalignment with the <i>MGA</i> 's criteria.
Allow municipalities to require criminal record checks for candidates.	No provisions in place.
Allow union and corporate donations to local candidates, with the same donation limits as individual donors (\$5,000 per municipality per year).	Unions and corporations were prohibited from donating to municipal campaigns in the 2021 campaign.
Allow donations outside the local election year and require annual reporting of donations.	Donations outside of the campaign period (January 1 to December 31 in the year of a general election) were restricted to a maximum of \$5,000 per year.
Require third-party advertisers interested in plebiscites to register and report finances. Only Albertans, Alberta companies and Alberta unions can contribute to issues-based third-party advertisers, up to a maximum of \$5,000.	The <i>LAEA</i> only regulates third-party advertising for the promotion or opposition of a candidate during an election. There is no reference to issue-based advertising.
Limit donations to third party advertisers to \$5,000 per election period, which begins May 1 of the election year.	The current donation limit is \$30,000 for all individuals, unions, and corporations.
Enable regulation-making authority to define local political parties. This approach will be piloted in Calgary and Edmonton.	No provisions in place to regulate political parties at the local level.
Repeal the municipal authority to develop a voters list.	Municipalities can prepare a voters list, which must be shared with all candidates.
Require municipalities to use the most current provincial register of electors from Elections Alberta.	A permanent electors register is an internal document that assists with the conduct of an election. Municipalities can choose to develop one or not.
Expand the use of special ballots while strengthening special ballot processes.	Special ballots can only be requested for very specific reasons, including physical disability, absence from the municipality, or for municipal election workers.
Limit vouching to the ability to vouch for someone's address.	An elector can vouch for an individual's age, residence, and identity.
Repeal the ability for a candidate's official agent or scrutineer to object to an elector.	Candidate's official agents or scrutineers can object to an elector; however, the elector can still vote.
Enable regulation-making authority to postpone elections in emergencies.	No provisions in place to enable the Minister to postpone an election in the event of a natural disaster.

Prohibit automated voting equipment, such as electronic tabulators.	The <i>LAEA</i> permits municipalities, by bylaw, to process ballots by automated voting equipment.
Require recounts if requested by a candidate when the margin is within 0.5 percent of total votes.	Returning officers have discretion regarding recounts.
Clarifying rules and streamlining processes for scrutineers.	Concerns have been raised that the rules for scrutineers are not clear.

Strengthening the accountability of local councils under the *MGA*

Proposed changes to the *MGA* will help ensure local councils and elected officials are mindful of the common interests of Albertans and held to greater account by the citizens who elected them.

Description of Proposed Changes	Current Status
Require a councillor's seat to become vacant upon disqualification.	Municipal councils or electors can only remove a disqualified councillor through the courts if they refuse to vacate their seat.
Require mandatory orientation training for councillors.	Training for councillors must be offered, but there is no requirement for the councillor to attend the training.
AMENDED: Allow Cabinet to remove a councillor by ordering a vote of the electors to determine whether the councillor should be removed. An elector vote to remove a councillor is limited to councillors who Cabinet consider to be unwilling, unable, or refusing to do the job for which they were elected, or if Cabinet considers such a vote to be in the public interest by taking into consideration illegal or unethical behaviour by a councillor.	Minister can only remove a sitting councillor through the municipal inspection process and only under very specific circumstances.
Allow elected officials to recuse themselves for real or perceived conflicts of interest.	Elected officials can only recuse themselves for matters in which they have a financial interest.
Make the Minister responsible for validating municipal recall petitions.	A municipality's chief administrative officer is responsible for validating recall petitions.
AMENDED: Enable Cabinet to require a municipality to amend or repeal a bylaw given specific requirements are met that allow Cabinet to intervene (including: the bylaw exceeds the scope of the <i>MGA</i> or otherwise exceeds the authority granted to a municipality under the <i>MGA</i> or any other statute, conflicts with the <i>MGA</i> or any other statute, is contrary to provincial policy, or contravenes the Constitution of Canada.	Cabinet may only intervene with respect to a land use bylaw or statutory plan. No provisions exist.
Give Cabinet authority to direct a municipality to take specific action to protect public health and/or safety.	
Allow the Minister to outline joint use planning agreement criteria and requirements.	All criteria for these agreements are currently in the <i>MGA</i> .
Specify that the assessed person for an electric generation system is the operator.	There is a lack of clarity regarding who should be assessed for electrical generation systems.

Accelerating housing development under the *MGA*

Affordable and attainable housing has become one of the most urgent concerns across the country, and Alberta's government is constantly searching for innovative ways to meet this challenge, including new tools for municipalities to leverage under the *MGA*.

Description of Proposed Changes	Current Status
Require municipalities to offer digital options for public hearings on planning and development and restrict them from holding extra hearings when not required by legislation.	No requirements in place for digital options. Municipalities can hold extra hearings beyond what's legislated.

Description of Proposed Changes	Current Status
Fully exempt non-profit subsidized affordable housing from property taxation.	No provisions in place.
Enable multi-year residential property tax incentives.	Municipalities may offer multi-year incentives for non-residential development, but not residential development.
Limit the ability of municipalities to require non-statutory studies as requirements for building and development permits.	No provisions in place.

Next steps

Should the legislation pass, supporting regulations would be developed through stakeholder engagement with municipalities and other partners, which is expected to take place in late spring and summer of 2024. If passed, it is anticipated that the majority of the legislation would come into force upon proclamation. Provisions that have property tax implications retain a January 1, 2025, coming into force date.



ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

May 21, 2024

AR114112

His Worship Sean Krausert
Mayor
Town of Canmore
902 - 7 Avenue
Canmore AB T1W 3K1

Dear Mayor Krausert:

Further to the information on Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) funding announced on December 15, 2023, I am pleased to provide correspondence for your record confirming the 2024 LGFF Capital and LGFF Operating allocations for your community.

For the Town of Canmore:

- The 2024 LGFF Capital allocation is \$2,622,876.
 - This includes a one-time funding top-up of \$646,571. This transitional funding was allocated to your community to ensure it does not experience a year-over-year decrease from capital funding allocated under the Municipal Sustainability Initiative in 2023. The use of this funding must follow all rules and conditions of the LGFF Capital program.
- The 2024 LGFF Operating allocation is \$401,226.

LGFF Capital is a legislated program aimed at providing local governments with substantial notice of their future infrastructure funding. As indicated on the program website, in 2025, your community will be eligible for \$2,277,648. Information on 2026 LGFF Capital allocations will be shared with local governments this fall, after growth in provincial revenues between 2022/23 and 2023/24 has been confirmed and applied to calculate 2026 program funding. LGFF Capital amounts will be published annually on the program website each fall.

Further information on LGFF funding for all local governments is available on the LGFF website at www.alberta.ca/LGFF.

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The LGFF program represents the culmination of significant work between the Government of Alberta and local governments across the province, and I am pleased the program will further our partnership in building Alberta communities together. I look forward to working with your community, and every local government across Alberta, as we continue to build strong and prosperous communities together.

Sincerely,



Ric McIver
Minister

cc: Sally Caudill, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Canmore