

# 2030 Watsonville Climate Vision

*Shaping our city in the time of climate change.*





# AGENDA

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- Climate Action Plan Update
  - Alex Yasbek, Sr. Engineer
  - Cristy Cassel-Shimabukuro, Outreach Manager
- Regeneracion - Electric Vehicle Equity Program
  - Natalie Olivas, Regeneracion Community Organizer
  - Mariela Lopez, Electric Vehicle Equity Coordinator





# Land Acknowledgement

1. Acknowledge that we are living on unceded land that was taken from indigenous people - the original inhabitants of this land

2. Recognize that we are all descendants of indigenous people from somewhere in the world - we have a responsibility to be stewards of the land just like those who came before us.





# California Regulatory Framework

**SB 32 - Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030**

**Executive Order B-55-18 - Carbon Neutral by 2045**

**Executive Order N-82-20 California Biodiversity Collaborative**







**2015  
Climate  
Action Plan**

**Local  
Hazard  
Mitigation  
Plan**

**Environmental  
Justice  
(General Plan)**

**Urban  
Greening  
Plan**

**2030  
Climate  
Action &  
Adaptation  
Plan**

**Green  
Infrastructure  
Grant**

**Complete  
Streets to  
School Plan**

**Urban  
Forestry Grant**





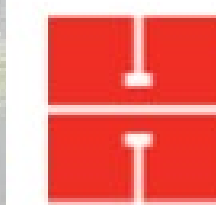
# Project Team

- **Lead Department** - Public Works and Utility Department

- **Assistance and Input** - Community Development Department, Parks and Community Services, Solid Waste, City Manager's Office, Airport, Finance

- **The Community**

- **Consultant** -



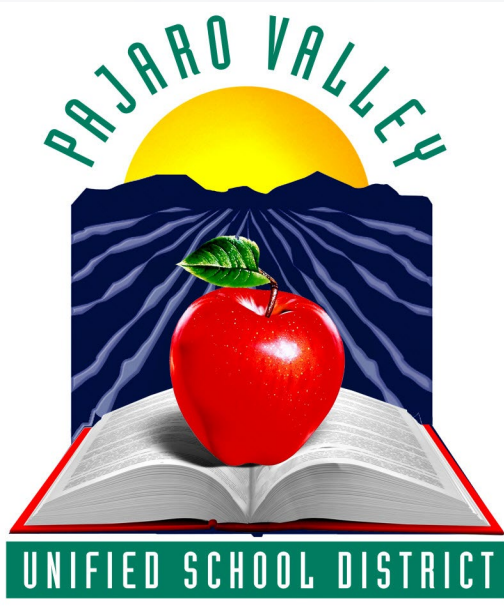
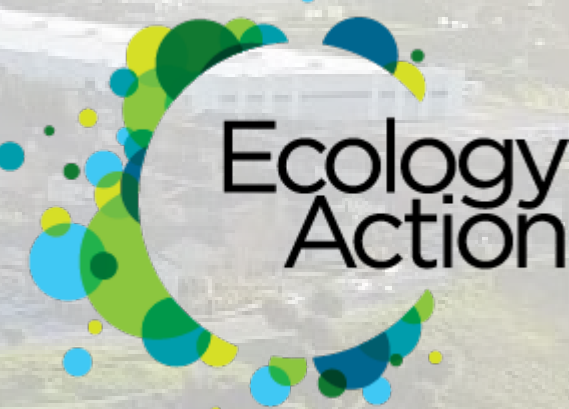
**Harris & Associates**





# Project Team

## External Stakeholders:

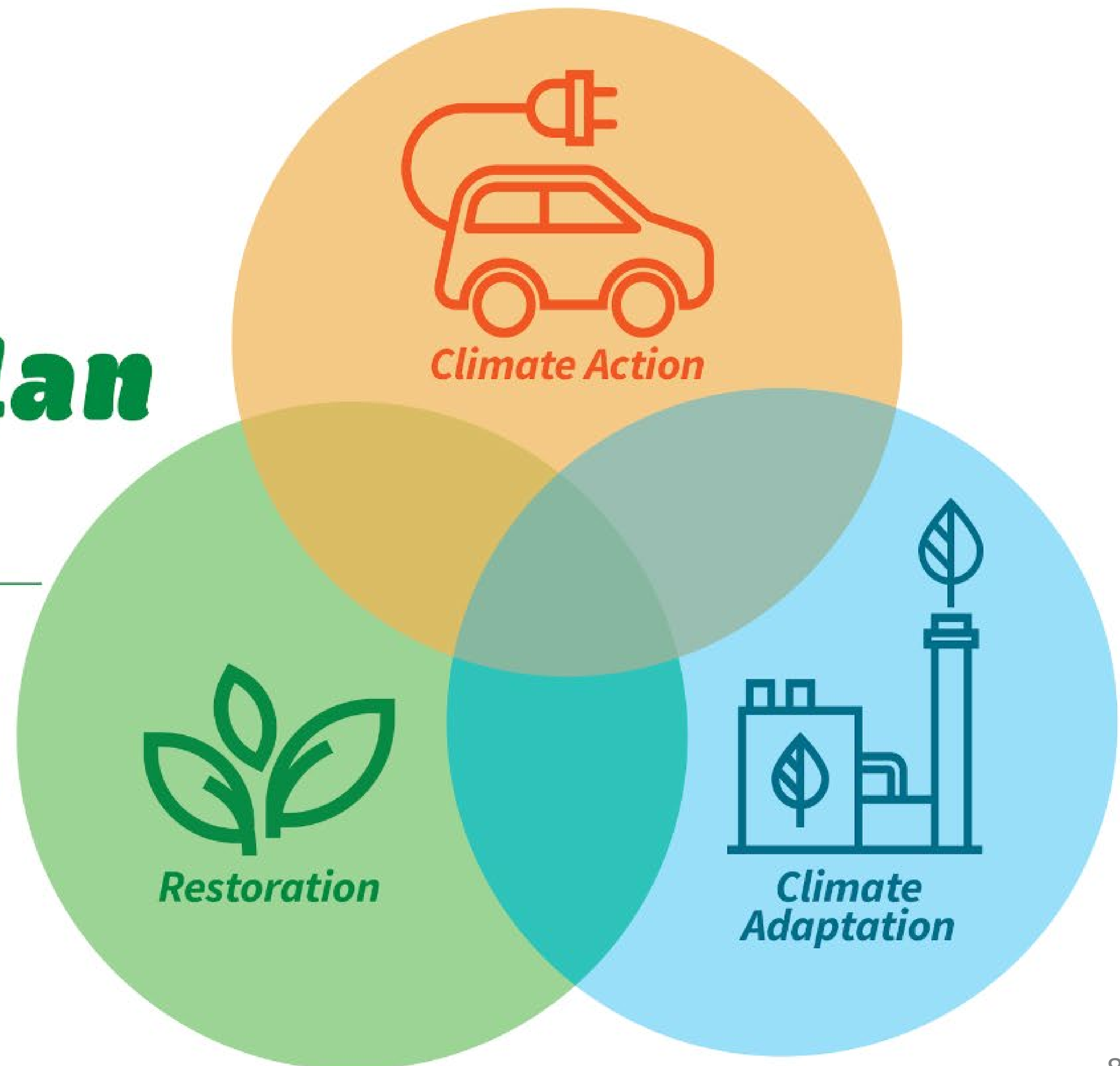




# 2030 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

A Holistic Approach

*The 2030 Plan interconnects past and current planning efforts to ensure our community is prepared and more resilient.*









**#1 Transportation:** *decrease GHG emissions from high levels of personal car usage (Vehicle Miles Travelled - VMT)*



Support and advocate for public transportation



Improve alternative and active transportation infrastructure



**#2 Energy:** *reduce GHG emissions through the use of renewable energy and energy conservation.*



Grid Improvements



Transition from gas to electricity (equitably)



Renewable energy generation and storage



### #3 Wastewater & Solid Waste: *manage waste streams, turn waste into resources, and reduce methane production and leakage.*



# Eliminate single-use plastics



# Decrease food waste



# Explore converting biosolids, and organic waste into biochar (charcoal like soil amendment)





# #4 Housing, Building Codes, & Ordinances: *create a vibrant and thriving city even with all of the impacts of climate change.*



Require trees by ordinance



Mandate green building practices





**#5 Agriculture, Water, and Food Adaptation:** *changes in agricultural practices to sequester carbon, build soil, conserve water, and prepare for climate impacts.*



Pilot projects to promote regenerative agriculture

Support community gardens



Replace lawns with food gardens





**#6 Restoration & Reversing Pollution:** *promote living in harmony with nature, healing the land, and viewing our Earth as sacred.*



Plant Trees

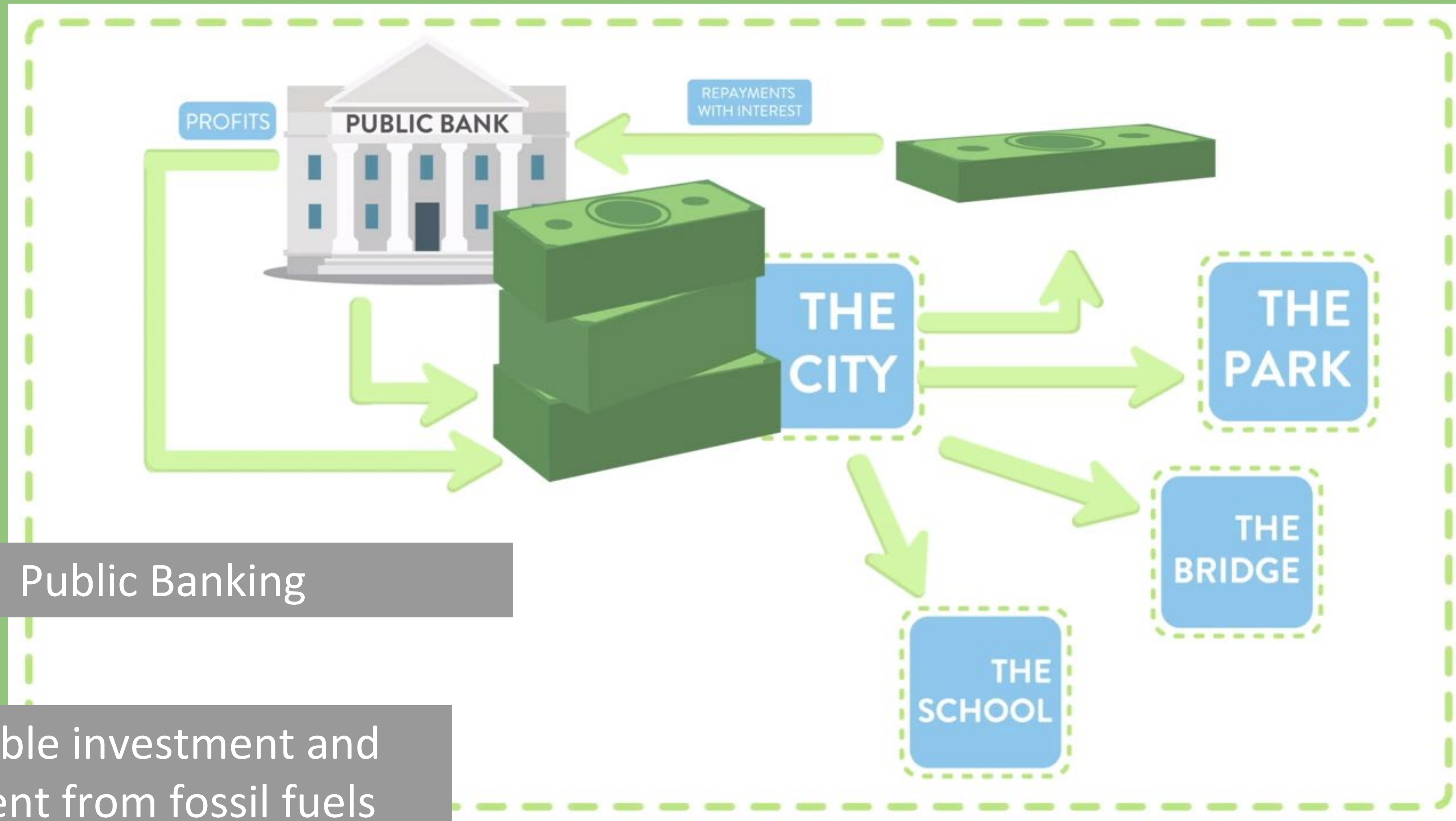


Restore Wetlands: Partnership with Watsonville Wetlands Watch





**#7 Environmentally Responsible Finance:** *align our financial policies with the goals of our climate action plan, and utilize finance in a way that is beneficial to the environment and our community.*



Public Banking

Responsible investment and  
divestment from fossil fuels



## #8 Neighborhood & Community: *build stronger and more connected neighborhoods that are resilient to short term shocks and long term stress.*



Community gardening

Expand Resource Conservation Center  
(formerly known as the Nature Center)



Creation of repair workshops and  
a tool library



## #9 Policy & Public Health: *use the City's political power to change and create new policies that serve Watsonville*

Advocacy and Partner



Create Regional Climate Action Plan



**#10 Equitable Green COVID Recovery:** *implement strategies and programs to focus recovery and reinvestment in green and equitable work that furthers the goals of sustainability and the climate action plan.*







**COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**Equitable  
&  
Inclusive**

**Community  
Advisory  
Committee**

**Bilingual  
Surveys**

**Community  
Meetings**

**Stakeholder  
Group**





# Community Input Via Two Bilingual Surveys

- **1st CLIMATE SURVEY (July 16 - Aug 25, 2020)**
  - What are your feelings and concerns about climate change?
- **2nd CLIMATE SURVEY (Nov 5 - Dec 24, 2020)**
  - What specific strategies and initiatives to prioritize?

**Over 1,300 reponses**





# EXAMPLES OF RESULTS

- 60% - “very important” that we reduce emissions to zero before 2045
- 81% - “very important and important” to invest in electric grid improvements to prevent power shut-offs
- Top priorities:
  - Increase food systems security and storage
  - Invest in water conservation
  - Improve sustainable building practices





# Climate Action Corps Fellows' Projects

*Grant funded by Bay Area Community Resources and Strategic Energy Innovations*

## Conservation



## Restoration



## Adaptation

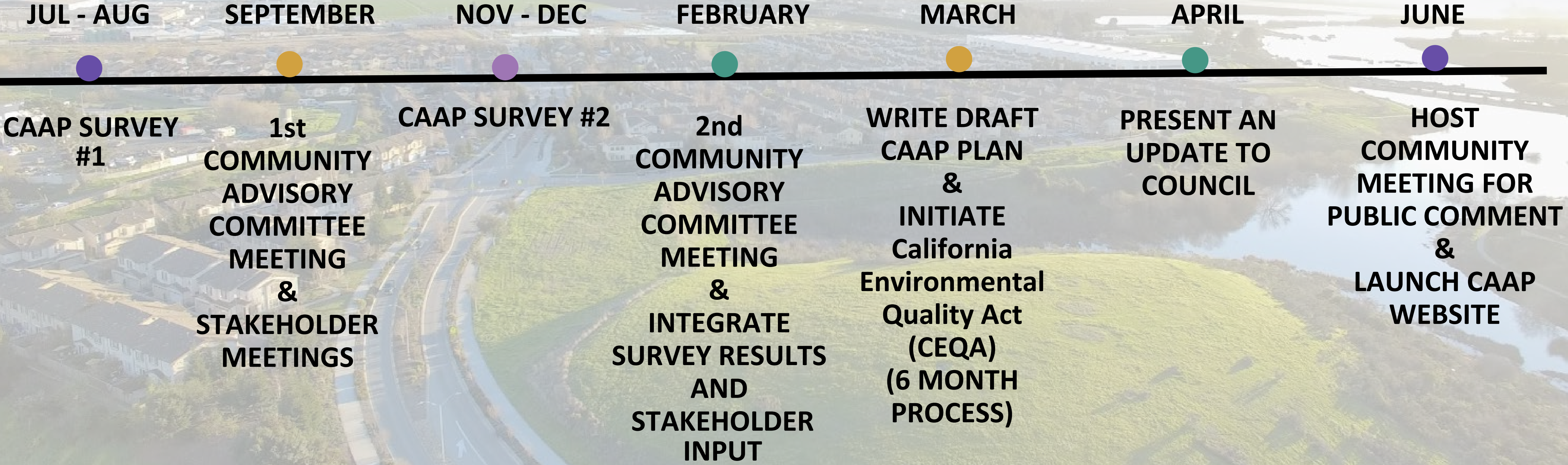


## Wellbeing





# CLIMATE ACTION & ADAPTATION PLAN (CAAP) TIMELINE





# Questions & Discussion

