



# Global Warming Solutions Act Progress Report

House Energy & Technology

April 9, 2021

Climate Council Steering Cmte Members:

- ANR Secretary Julie Moore, P.E.
- Liz Miller, Green Mountain Power
- Chris Campany, Windham Regional Comm.

w/ Jane Lazorchak, GWSA Director



# GWSA Key Dates

- General Assembly (GA) had 60 days from enactment (Sept 23, 2020) to make appointments
- Administration had 30 days from receiving final appointment (Oct 23, 2020) to convene first meeting of the Council
  - First meeting was held November 20, 2020
- Council's first annual progress report to GA – Jan 15, 2021
- Draft Climate Action Plan available for public comment – Oct 1, 2021
- **Council adopts Climate Action Plan – Dec 1, 2021**



# Vermont Climate Action Plan

The Plan shall include specific initiatives, programs, and strategies that will:

1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation, building, regulated utility, industrial, commercial, and agricultural sectors;
2. Encourage smart growth and related strategies;
3. Achieve long-term sequestration and storage of carbon and promote best management practices to achieve climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience on natural working lands;

# Vermont Climate Action Plan

## Requirements (cont.)

4. Achieve net zero emissions by 2050 across all sectors;
5. Reduce energy burdens for rural and marginalized communities;
6. Limit the use of chemicals, substances, or products that contribute to climate change; and
7. Build and encourage climate adaptation and resilience of Vermont communities and natural systems.

# Climate Council Meetings

- The full Council has met seven times:
  - November 20, 2020
    - *State Government 101*
  - December 21, 2020
    - *State of Vermont's Climate; Emissions Inventory and Current Strategies*
  - January 4, 2021
    - *Equity Considerations; Resilience Inventory and Current Strategies; Natural and Working Lands*
  - January 14, 2021
    - *Review draft report to GA*
  - January 25, 2021
    - *Lessons learned from MA, ME, NY; process design; Steering Cmte formed*
  - February 8, 2021
    - *Subcommittee membership*
  - March 22, 2021
    - *Subcommittee charges, review of Comprehensive Energy Plan and technical analyses RFP*



# Council Steering Committee

## Roles

- Develop Council meeting agendas
- Develop common frameworks for Subcommittee work (templates etc.)
- Serve as a clearinghouse for requests for technical help/contractor support
- Track progress and ensure an effective and efficient process.

## Composition

- Two Executive Branch members
  - Council Chair AoA  
Secretary Susanne Young
  - ANR Secretary Julie Moore
- Four Legislatively-appointed members
  - Chris Company (WRC)
  - Liz Miller (GMP)
  - Jared Duval (EAN)
  - Lauren Oates (TNC)

***Its spirit:** To act in service of the Council, organizing the work, but not controlling it*

# Climate Council Subcommittees (in Statute)



- Rural Resilience and Adaptation Subcommittee
- Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee
- Just Transitions Subcommittee
- Agriculture and Ecosystems Subcommittee
- Any other Subcommittees identified by the Council
  - Science and Data Subcommittee

# Subcommittees

## *Roles*

- Core function: Recommend initiatives, programs and strategies for the Council to review, refine and compile into Vermont's Climate Action Plan
  - Begin by inventorying existing efforts
  - Develop scope for needed contractors support

## *Composition*

- 8-10 members
  - Includes both Council members and non-council members
- Criteria for selecting non-council members include:
  - Relevant expertise;
  - Sectoral, geographic and other balance
- Subcommittees are supported by SoV agency staff
- Councilors appointed as Liaisons between Subcommittees, where necessary



# Subcommittees

## *Leadership*

- Co-chairs:
  - One from Executive branch (or designee), one Legislatively-appointed members
    - Just Transitions brought in two additional Co-chairs from outside of the Council
  - Key attributes
    - Substantive expertise
    - Willingness to work collaboratively
    - Sufficient time availability

## *Selecting Members and Co-Chairs*

- Council members indicated preference
- Broadly solicit additional nominations to fill gaps
- Subcommittee proposed “slate”
- Council confirmed slate through Steering Committee

	FINAL SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSITION				
	<i>Resilience &amp; Adaptation</i>	<i>Cross-Sector Mitigation</i>	<i>Just Transitions</i>	<i>Agriculture &amp; Ecosystems</i>	<i>Science &amp; Data</i>
Co-chair	Catherine Dimitruk*	Richard Cowart*	Sue Minter*	Abbie Corse*	Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux*
Co-chair	Erica Bornemann*	Peter Walke	Sarah Phillips	Billy Coster	TJ Poor
Member #1	Lindsay Kurrle*	Johanna Miller*	Kelly Klein*	Anson Tebbetts* (Ryan Patch)	Jared Duval*
Member #2	Chad Farrell*	June Tierney* (Ed McNamara)	Sean Brown* (Jennifer Myka)	Sophia Clark*	Julie Moore*
Member #3	Joe Flynn* (Joe Segale)	Liz Miller*	Chris Campany*	Lauren Oates*	Brian Gray*
Member #4	David Snedeker	Adam Knudsen*	Kiah Morris (Co-Chair)	Alissa C. White	Jason Shafer
Member #5	Michael Burke	Jared Duval*	Beverly Littlethunder	David Mears	Louis Cecere
Member #6	Ann Lawless	David Farnsworth	Iris Hsiang	John Roberts	Richard Hopkins
Member #7	Karen Horn	Gina Campoli	Nadia Marquez Pabst (Co-Chair)	Judy Dow	
Member #8	Kate McCarthy	Christine Donovan	Virginie Diambou	Jake Claro	
Member #9		Peter Bourne	Aris Garcia	Charlie Hancock	
Member #10		Kelly Klein*	Danielle Bombardier		
Member #11		Lauren Oates*			

# Subcommittee Work

- Most Subcommittees meet weekly
- All Subcommittees have drafted a charter
  - Overlap and “underlap”
- Work plan

# Sequence of Work

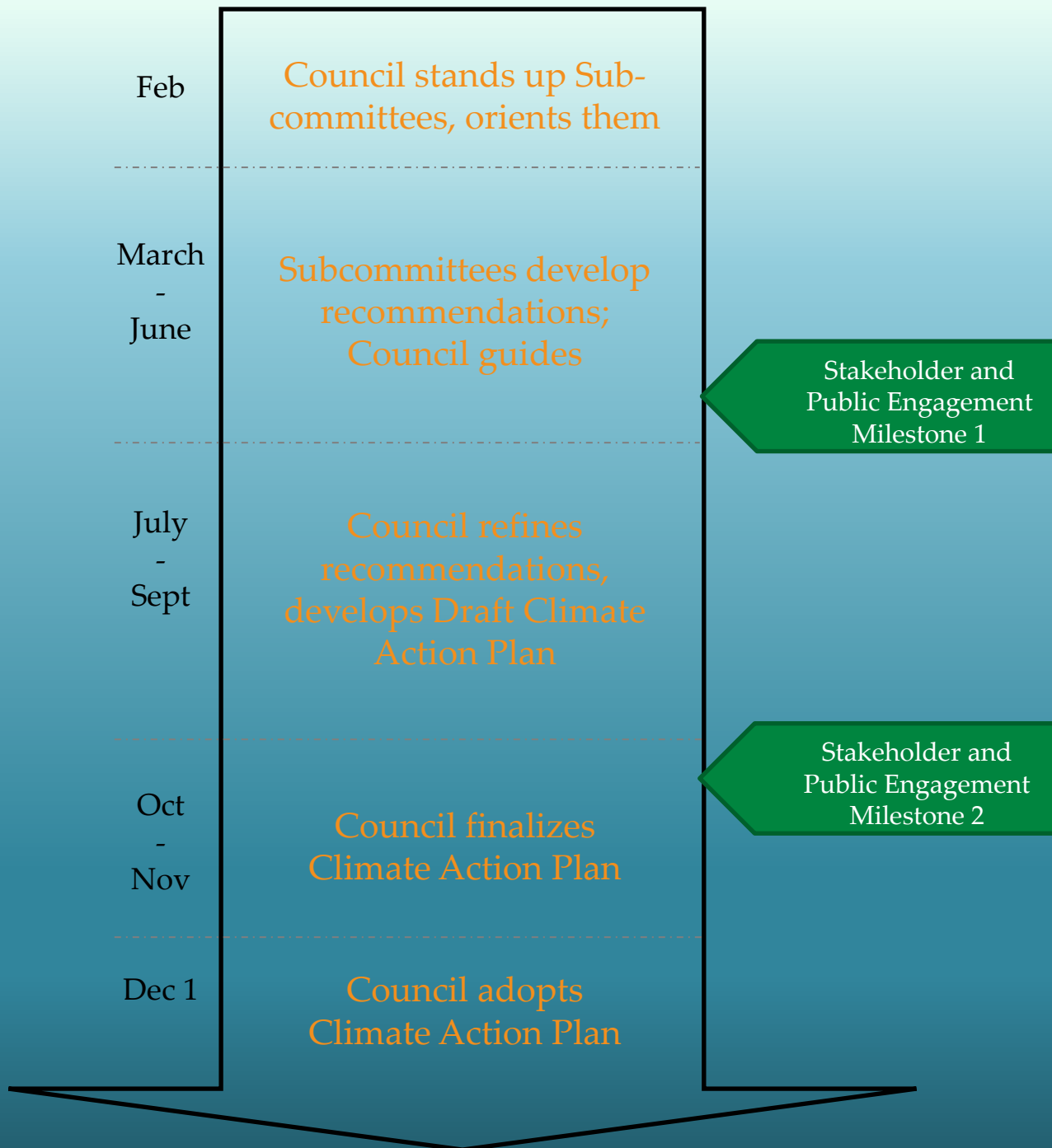
1. Inventory existing programs to reduce GHG emissions
2. Identify, analyze and evaluate new strategies/programs needed to meet GHG targets
  - Evaluate cost effectiveness
3. Develop financing strategies
4. Inventory existing programs to build resilience
5. Identify, analyze and evaluate new strategies/programs needed to improve resilience

# Sequence of Work (cont.)

6. Develop monitoring strategy for assessing:
  - GHG emissions
  - Program effectiveness
  - Impacts of climate change on Vermont's climate, wildlife and natural resources
  - Community resilience
7. Identify rules to be adopted (by ANR) and necessary
8. Adopt the Vermont Climate Action Plan by Dec 1, 2021, and update the Plan every four years thereafter.



# Climate Council Process Timeline



# Climate Action Plan – Contracted Work

- Facilitation and process support
  - Contract signed with Consensus Building Institute
- Public engagement and outreach
  - Contract being finalized
- Technical support (emissions modeling; economic modeling; monitoring and program evaluation)
  - RFI issued Jan 11; 15 responses received
  - RFP will be issued imminently
    - Developed through collective process with ANR staff and Subcommittees

# Extra Slides

## Global Warming Solutions Act Budget

### Agency Costs

FY 2021

#### Staff

Project Director	67,026
Lawyer	54,601
Research Analyst	46,800

Total Staff Support 168,427

Operating Costs & Overhead 25,264

Per Diems 46,560

**Total Agency Costs 240,250**

### One-time Expenses

#### Contracts \*

Facilitator	
Jan/Feb Process Meeting	19,750
On-going facilitation	150,000
Public Outreach	200,000
Technical Support	840,000

**Total Contracts 1,209,750**

**Total GWSA Budget 1,450,000**

*\* One time contracts will be executed in FY 2021, actual spending will not be complete until FY 2022*

# Proposed ARPA Climate Investments

- EV Infrastructure \$25M
- Weatherization \$21M
- Electrification Incentives \$29M
- Hazard Mitigation \$25M
- Climate Action Plan \$100M