

# Climate Action Plan for the Eagle County Community

Update Presentation for Stakeholders

September 2016

# Our Mountains and Valleys are at Risk...

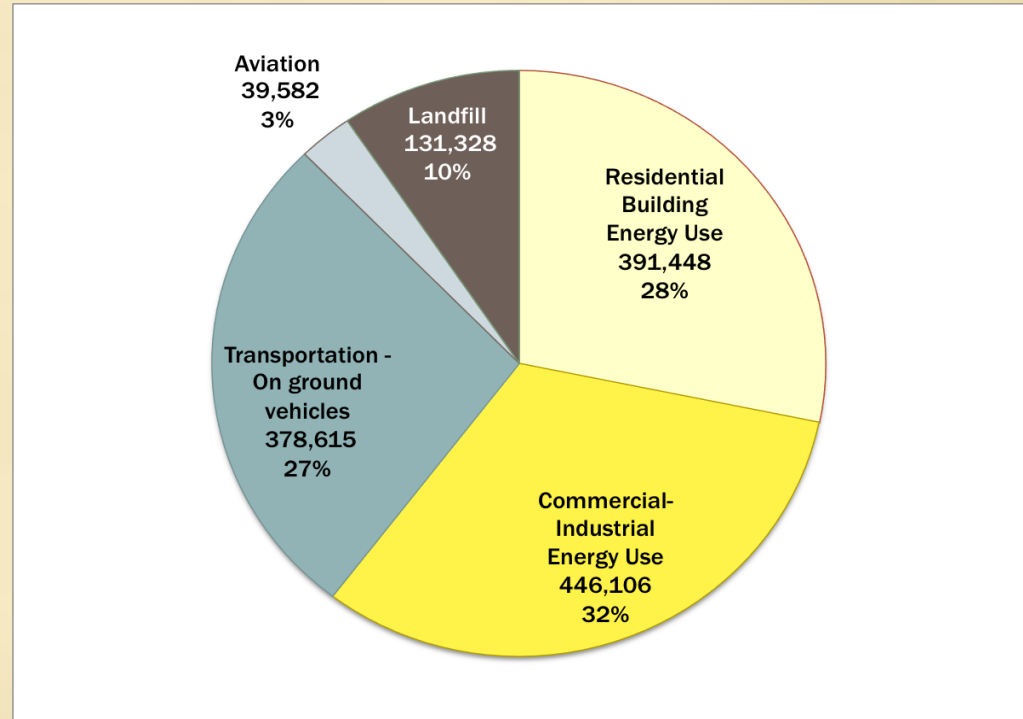
- July 2016 was the hottest month on record for global temperatures
- In Colorado there are now 23 fewer frost free days than before the 1980s
- Scientists predict we'll gain 30 more frost free days by 2060
- Warmer average temperatures are on the rise, summers will be hotter
- Increasing forest insect pests and diseases are changing our forests
- Spring snow packs are declining and less predictable
- There are shifts in timing of peak snow pack and spring runoff
- Scientists predict more extreme events - wildfires, droughts and floods
- Our mountains and valleys, and our community, are at risk

# Climate Pollution is Costing Us...

- The Eagle County community spends \$243.5 million annually on fuels and electricity that create polluting greenhouse gases
- This is about \$66,700 spent each day by our community, or about \$5,300 per person annually
- On a per capita basis, the Eagle County community produces 30% more emissions than the U.S. average
- This does not include the costs of climate adaptation—fighting fires, removing beetle-killed trees, and watershed projects to lessen the impacts of drought and flooding
- Cutting our energy use just 10 percent would save our community at least \$24 million each year

# Here's where our Climate Pollution comes from:

- Data: Eagle County 2014 greenhouse gas inventory
- Total = 1.4 million tons CO<sub>2</sub> per year
- \$243 million per year spent on fuels and electricity



# We Want to Protect Our Community Values

**Our Community Health and Well Being** - we can help prevent community health threats like increasing insect borne diseases, increasing allergies, smoke waves from wildfires, and other forms of air and water pollution

**Our Environment and Recreation** – we can help protect the places we like to play, prevent our mountains and valleys from drought and flooding, and support the forests and wildlife that depends on our mountain ecosystem

**We Can Lead the Way for our Economy** – investing in energy efficiency, solar arrays, electric and hybrid vehicles, smart growth, and creating new green jobs will make us leaders in the coming “post carbon economy”

# Goals for the Climate Action Plan for the Eagle County Community:

- Engage community stakeholders
- Set meaningful, achievable greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for the Eagle County community
- Build on stakeholders' knowledge and commitment to positive change
- Collaborate across towns, businesses, and organizations
- Support other regional and state efforts



# Stakeholders

Town of Avon

Town of Gypsum

Town of Eagle

Town of Minturn

Town of Vail

Eagle County

Colorado Mountain  
College

Eagle County Schools

Eagle River Water &  
Sanitation District

Eagle River Youth  
Coalition

East West Destination  
Hospitality

Energy Smart Colorado

Ground Up Composting

Holy Cross Energy

Vail Honeywagon

Vail Mountain School

Vail Resorts

Vail Valley Foundation

Vail Valley Medical  
Center

Walking Mountains  
Science Center

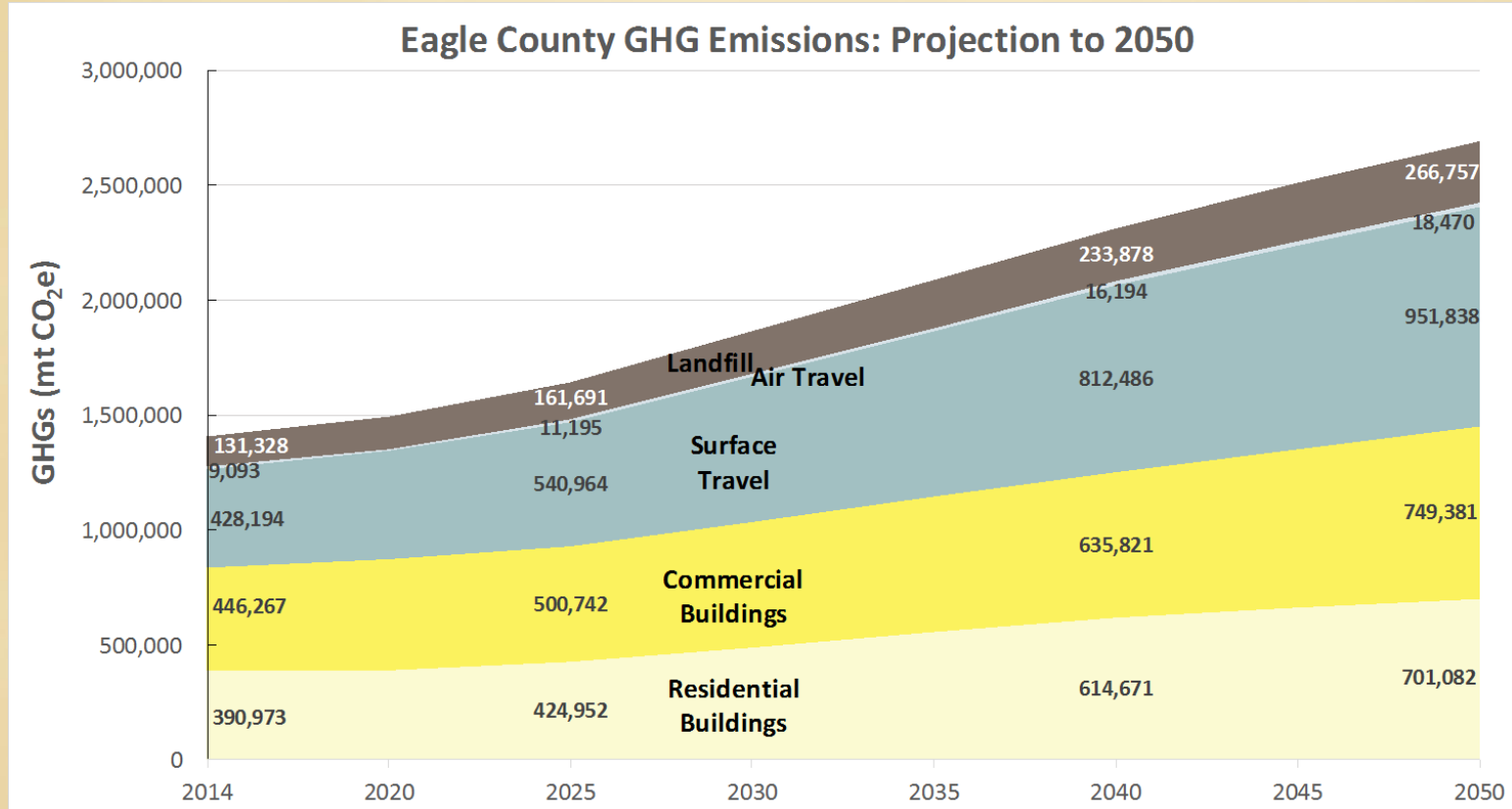
# Stakeholders' "What Success Looks Like"

- Align the plan with community and organizational values
- Set realistic and achievable GHG reduction targets
- Community endorsement, ownership and support of the plan is critical





# “Business As Usual” Scenario for Eagle County



Eagle County GHG forecasting data from Dr. Abel Chavez, Western State Colorado University

# Stakeholders Recommend Targets

## Reduce GHG emissions % below 2014 Baseline:

- 25% by 2025
- 50% by 2035
- 70% by 2045
- 80% by 2050

(IPCC recommendation)



# Stakeholders Recommend Goals by Sector

- **Buildings** – Increase participation in Energy Smart from 7.5% to 50% by 2035
- **Transportation** – Transit oriented development, reduce car use, increase public transit, increase paid parking, increase zero-emissions vehicles
- **Waste Diversion** – Increase recycling, divert 30% of waste at landfill via composting
- **Power Supply** – Support for 50% renewables by 2030 and 100% by 2050
- **Education and Outreach** – Create cross-sector climate education task force, expand Actively Green sustainable business participation





Your input is welcome!



Open House Sessions 5-7 p.m.

- Wednesday Sept. 14 - Brush Creek Pavilion
- Monday Sept. 19 - Grand View, Vail
- Thursday Sept. 22 – Miller Ranch Community Room
- For more information and to give feedback go to: [www.walkingmountains.org/cap](http://www.walkingmountains.org/cap) or email [cap@walkingmountains.org](mailto:cap@walkingmountains.org)