



Local Governments  
for Sustainability

USA

# Raising Ambition in the Race to Zero

March 22, 2023

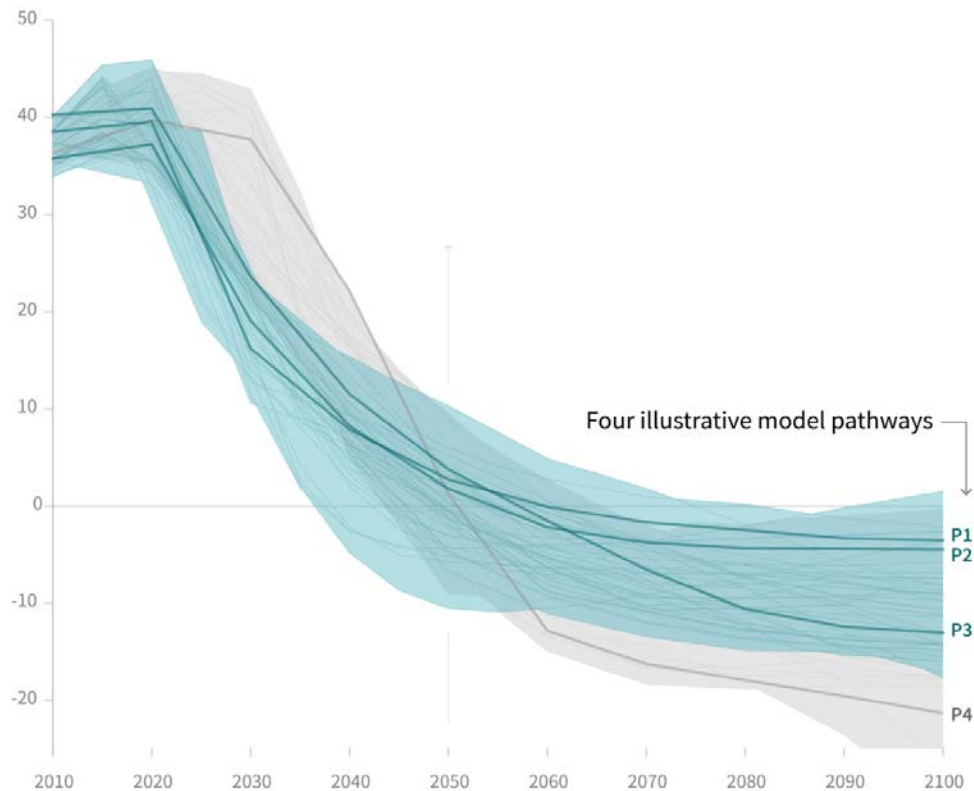
Climate Energy and  
Environment Policy Committee  
(CEEPC)

Angie Fyfe, ICLEI USA  
Executive Director



## Global total net CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr



**For the safety of people, planet, and economy we must reduce global emissions in half by 2030 and reach net zero emissions by 2050**

# ICLEI: Who We Are

- **The ICLEI network is united for worldwide action.**
- We influence sustainability policy and drive local action through **5 pathways**:
  - Low emissions
  - Nature-based
  - Resilient
  - Equitable and people-centered
  - Circular
- Our Members & team of experts collaborate to achieve measurable progress towards more economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable forms of development and management.

## ICLEI Global Impact

- **2500+ Local & Regional Governments**
- **24 Offices Worldwide**
- **Active in 125+ Countries**
- **Impacting more than 25% of people living in cities**
- **5 Interconnected Development Pathways**





Local government  
action is essential for  
reaching global goals



# ICLEI USA



**Serves more than 300 communities**



**Represents 55+ million US residents**



**Best in class GHG mitigation standards, tools**



**Supporting local climate action for over 30 years**

# An opportunity to:



Lead by Example



Be the Future



Clean Air



Prepare for the Future



Collaborate



Attract Investments



Create Jobs



Innovate



Reduce Emissions

# The Race to Zero



Race To Zero is a global campaign (established by the UN Climate in June 2020) to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero-carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth.





**Local signatories:**  
**Alexandria**  
**Takoma Park**  
**Washington D.C.**

Last updated October 2022 <https://racetozero.unfccc.int/join-the-race/whos-in/>





# General Principles

1. It is critical to have a **2030 SBT**
2. Planning should incorporate rapidly **changing trends**
3. Programs should take a **holistic approach**, including health, resilience, and equity
4. Local government can't do it alone. Regional **Collaboration, states and utilities** are essential
5. Inventories provide the foundation for **informed decisions and transparency**

# Science-Based Targets are an Important Step in:

Setting climate goals for 2030 or sooner that put your community on a path to climate neutrality

Reaching the scale of reductions necessary to limit global warming to 1.5°C

Maintaining steady progress

Prioritizing action now



# Sample City SBT Overview

Per Capita SBT

**63.4%**

Absolute SBT

**57.9%**

Global Emissions Reduction  
of **50% by 2030**

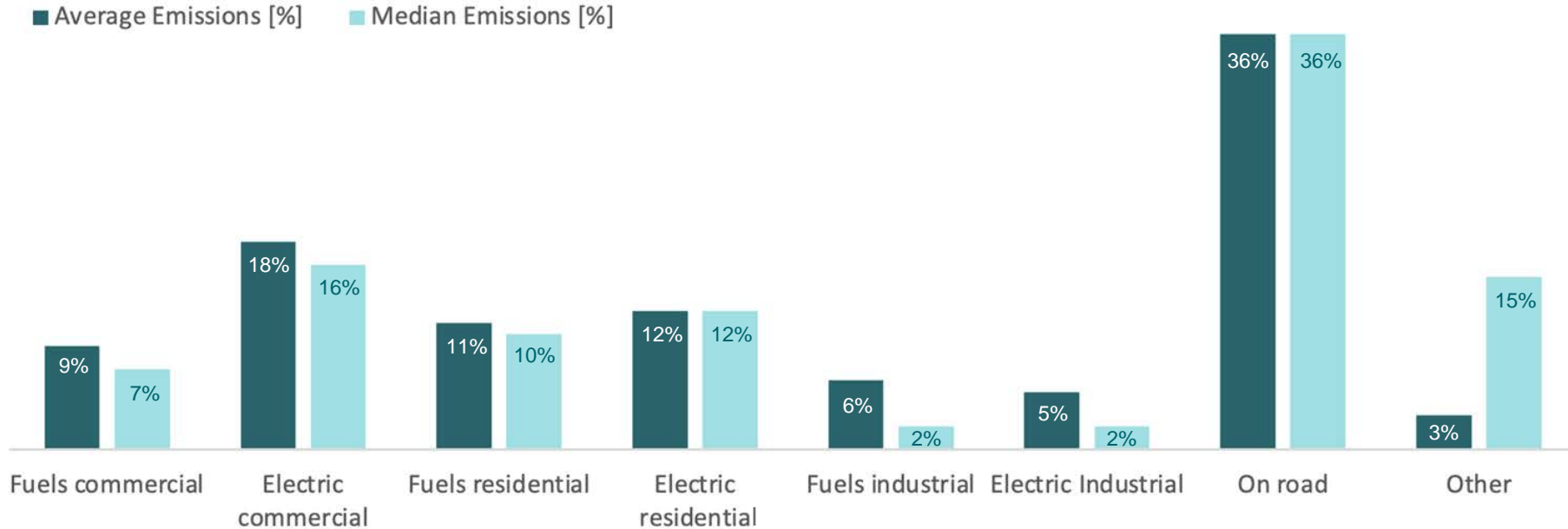


Adjust **50%** target based on  
a **fair share** of emissions (Per  
Capita SBT)



Adjust target for **population  
change** (Absolute SBT)

# Inventory Analysis: 100 US City Emissions Overview



# High Impact Action Pathways

## Accelerating



Renewable Energy



Building Electrification (and Efficiency): New and Existing



EV Transition  
(and VMT Reduction)



**It can't be done alone.**

The High Impact Action Pathways include avenues for advocacy and collaboration for systemic change

## Supporting



Waste and Methane



Nature-Based Solutions



Sustainable Food Systems



Circular Economy



Community Resilience,  
Health, and Equity (Just and  
Equitable Transition)





## **Aspen Colorado**

**Was:** 30% reduction by 2020; 80% by 2050

**Now:** 63% by 2030 and 100% by 2050

## **Shoreline Washington**

CAP update: Equity, Nature, SBT

## **Hastings-on-Hudson New York**

Climate Emergency + SBT declaration

## **East Central Florida Regional Planning Council**

Part of Resilience Framework



# ICLEI USA Technical Guidance



**Your  
Science-Based  
Target**



**High-Impact  
Action  
Identification**



**Personalized  
Support  
Package**



**Tech Assistance  
To Proceed  
on Action**

# Learning Cohorts



Sustainability Planning

Greenhouse Gas Accounting, Target Setting and High Impact Action

Integrated Climate Action Plan

Budgeting and Procurement for Climate Action

Nature, Biodiversity, Forestry

Circular Economy

# Next Steps

