



# Joint Sustainability Committee

## Climate Plan Revision - Goal Update

April 22, 2020

# How do we choose a goal?

- What's necessary to meet 1.5C
- Take full responsibility in the global context
  - We have way more resources than others
  - We've already emitted way more than other
  - We're already reducing more than others
- Take responsibility for our historical emissions once beyond zero
- What's realistic in terms of adoption rates / change potential

Remember this isn't all just additional cost.

Avoiding catastrophic climate change has a positive NPV

Co-benefits of clear air, safety, less pollution, better ecosystems are all valuable

# Benchmarking Net Zero Goals

2050 - Portland, San Francisco, Seattle, NYC, LA

2045 - Canberra

2040 - Reykjavik, Stockholm

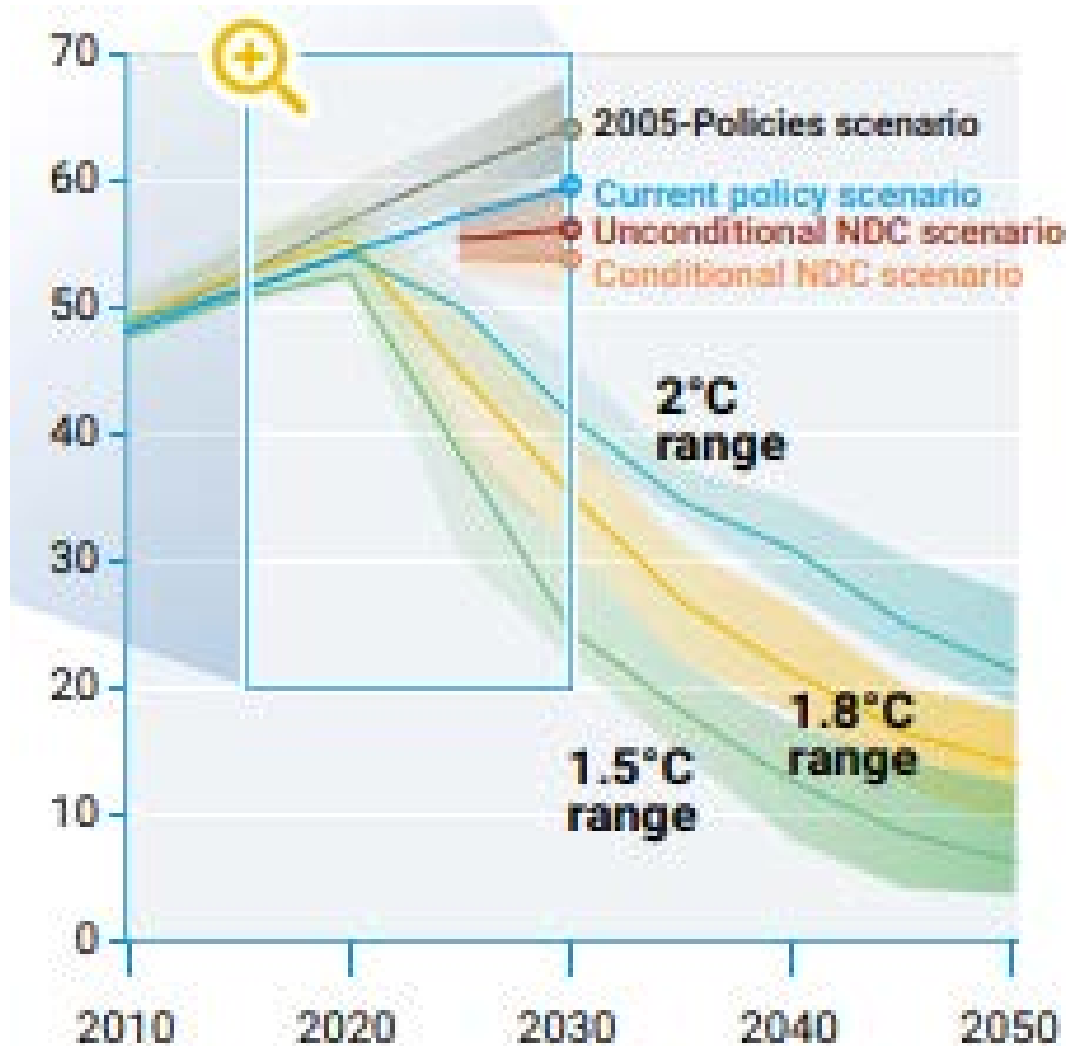
2035 - Helsinki

2030 - Bristol, New Castle, Glasgow, Liverpool

2025 - Copenhagen

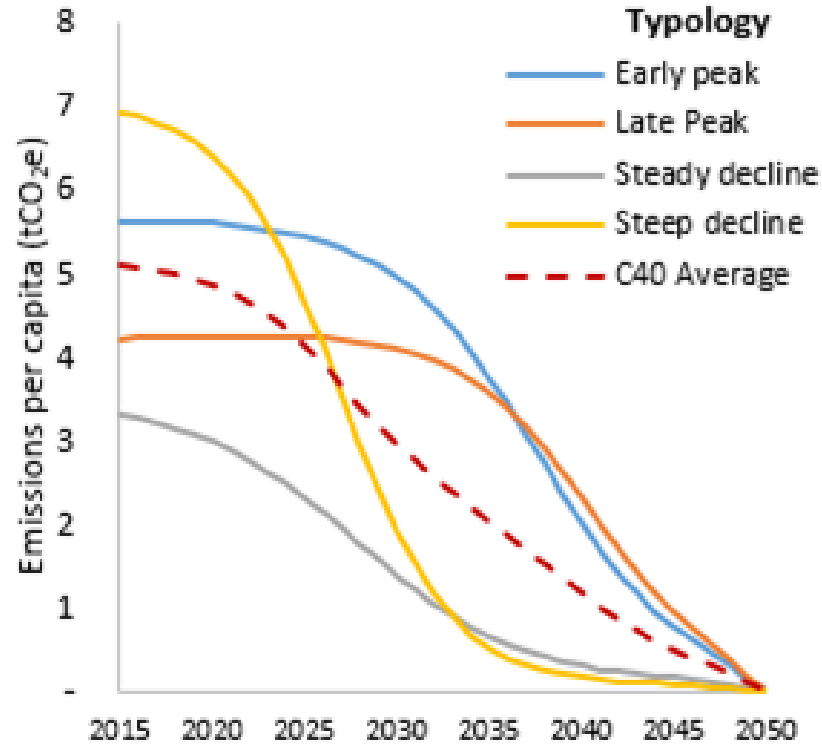
2021 - Adelaide

# UN 2019 Gap Report



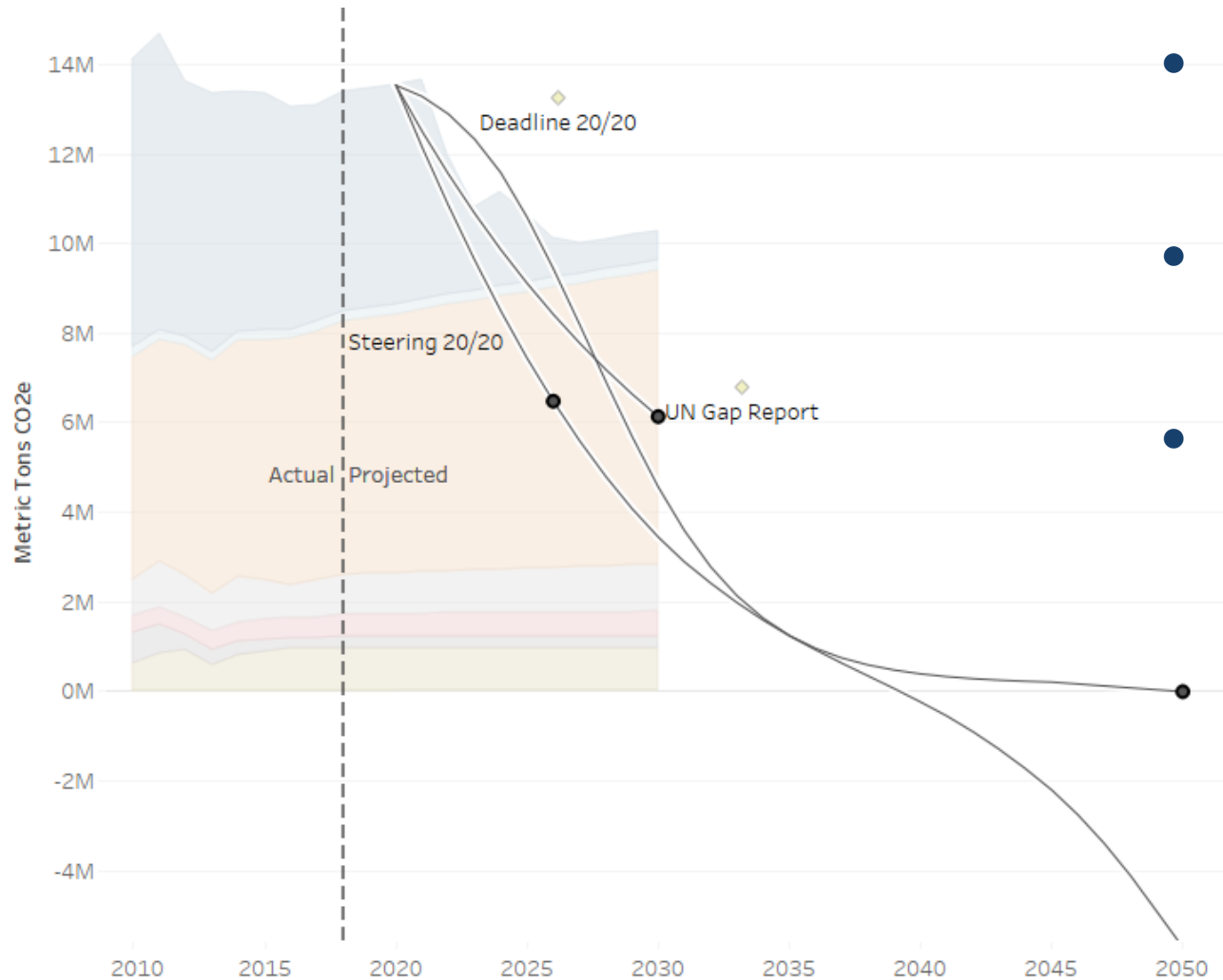
- At a global scale emissions reductions scenarios are clear
- It's difficult for nations to divide emissions reductions equitably, let alone cities

# C40 Deadline 2020 Report



- Austin is a 'Steep Decline' city.
- GDP per capita is over \$15,000 and emissions above the average for C40
- 'Emissions need to be immediately and rapidly reduced and the city is sufficiently developed to do so'

# Target Comparison

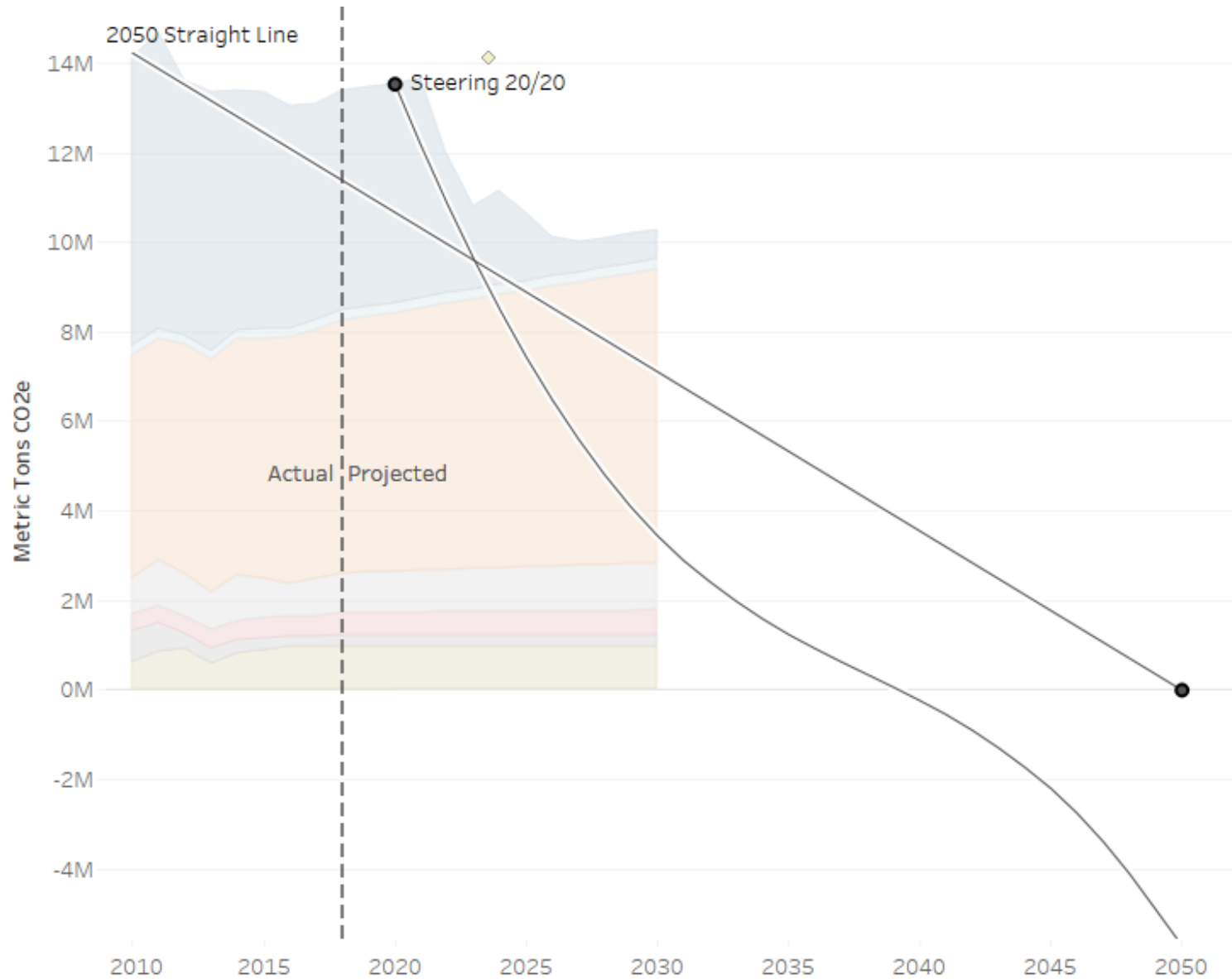


- Deadline 20/20's Steep Decline curve is slightly outdated (2016)
- The UN Gap Report target is more recent than Deadline 20/20, but it represents a global average
- Steering 20/20 captures the urgency of the UN Gap report and the city specific recommendation of Deadline 20/20 as well as:
  - A Net Zero by 2040 goal
  - A more aggressive reduction schedule to show Austin is a global leader
  - Negative emissions targets beyond 2040 to account for historic emissions

# Proposal

- Move from Net Zero by 2050 to Net Zero by 2040
- Re-starting in 2020
- Follow the C40 Steep Decline Trajectory
- Aiming for Climate Justice by 2050
  - Taking responsibility for historical emissions
  - Deeply negative emissions

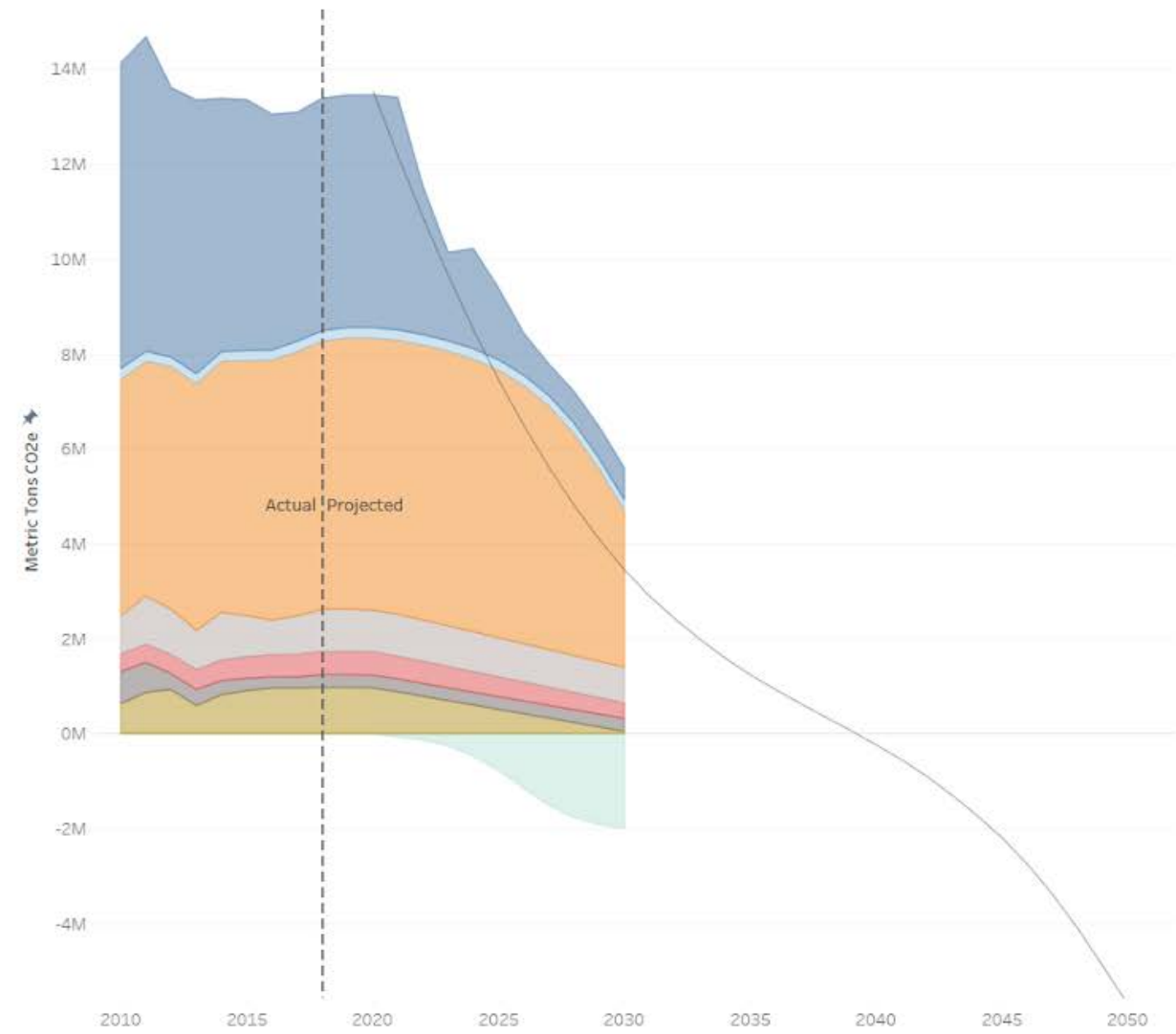
# 2050 v. 2040 Steep





# This is Possible, but very aggressive

Austin Community GHG Trend Actual and Projected



**Sector Filter**

- (All)
- Austin Energy Electr...
- Industrial Process
- Natural Gas Combust...
- Natural Systems
- Offsets
- Refrigerants
- Transportation
- UT Power Plant
- Waste

**Legend**

- Austin Energy Electri..
- UT Power Plant
- Transportation
- Natural Gas Combust..
- Refrigerants
- Waste
- Industrial Process
- Offsets
- Natural Systems

**Target Display**

Steering 20/20

**Graph Display**

- Original Projections
- Adjusted Projections

**Negative Emissions Displ..**

- Show Net Emissions
- Show Negative Emis...

**# of Electric Vehicles**

Curve Size

Start

Curviness

EV Slow

EV Moderate

EV Fast

0K 200K 400K 516K

21 23 25 27 29

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**% Increase Transit Rides**

Transit ^

Curve Size

Start

Curviness

Transit Slow

Transit Moderate

Transit Fast

0% 100% 200% 300% 400%

7% 384%

21 23 25 27 29

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**# Teleworkers**  **Days/Week T..**

**# Bicyclists**  **Days/Week B..**

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**Natural Gas in Buildi..**  No Action  Limited New...  No New Gas

**Refrigerants + ODS**  No Action  Moderate Tran...  Fast Transition

**Industrial Emissions**  No Action  Moderate Abat...  Full Abatement

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**2030 Purchased Offsets (MT CO<sub>2</sub>e)**

**2030 Natural System Sequester..**

# What could it take to meet this goal trajectory in 2030?

- Austin Energy meets REACH carbon reduction targets and renewable energy targets
- No new Natural Gas hookups and 25% electrification of existing housing stock
- 50% reduction in refrigerant emissions
- 100% of Semiconductor F-gas emissions abated
- Getting people out of cars
  - 190,000 people biking 3 days a week
  - 150,000 people teleworking 4 days a week
  - 384% growth in Cap Metro Ridership (full Project Connect Buildout and exceeding targets)
- Electrification of privately owned vehicles
  - 516,000 EVs on the road (50% of the total)
  - Nearing 100% of all new vehicle sales
  
- We're still 2 million tonnes short
  - Commit to community support of carbon offsets or other local sequestration

# What's Next?

The Steering Committee supports this change moving forward

This change will be communicated to all 5 Advisory Groups:

- They will create strategies that match the urgency of the revised goal
- Back and forth with City Staff on quantifying action / benefit / reality