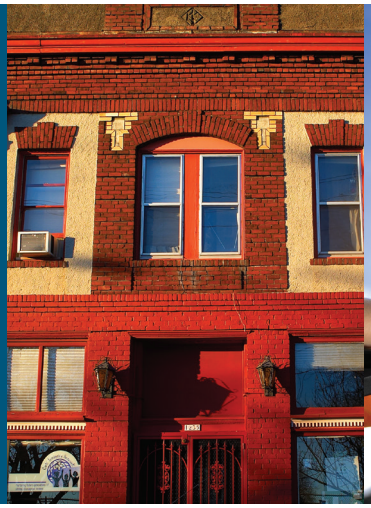
November 2013

CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES SCENARIOS PROJECT

Metro



What the future might look like in 2035

Scenario
A

Recent Trends

This scenario shows the results of implementing adopted plans to the extent possible with existing revenue.

Scenario
B

Adopted Plans

This scenario shows the results of successfully implementing adopted land use and transportation plans and achieving the current RTP, which relies on increased revenue.

Scenario
C

New Plans and Policies

This scenario shows the results of pursuing new policies, more investment and new revenue sources to more fully achieve adopted and emerging plans.

INVESTING IN GREAT COMMUNITIES

The Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project was initiated in response to a mandate from the 2009 Oregon Legislature to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent from cars and small trucks by 2035.

There are many ways to reduce emissions while creating healthy, more equitable communities and a vibrant regional economy. Providing services and shopping near where people live, expanding transit service, encouraging electric cars and providing safer routes for walking and biking all can help.

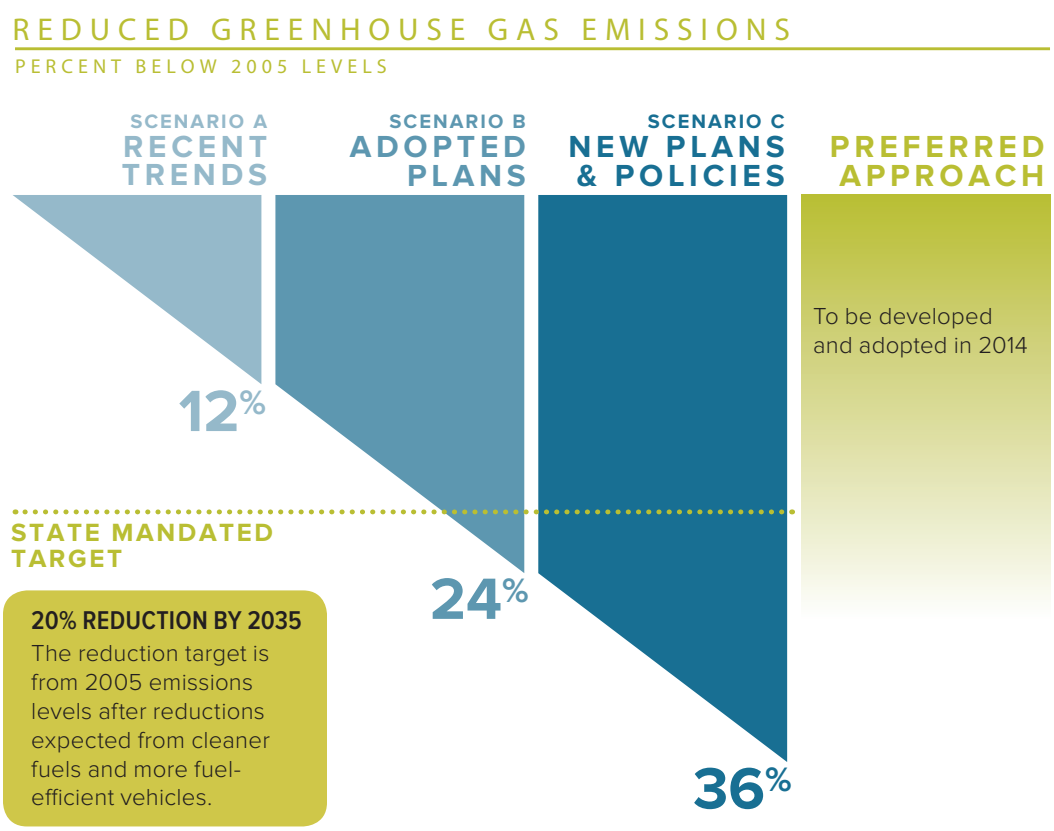
The goal of the Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project is to engage community, business, public health and elected leaders in a discussion with their communities to shape a preferred approach that meets the state mandate and supports local and regional plans for downtowns, main streets and employment areas.

To realize that goal, Metro evaluated three approaches – or scenarios – over the summer of 2013 to better understand how best to support community visions and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The results will be used to frame the regional discussion about which investments and actions should be included in a preferred approach for the Metro Council to consider for adoption in December 2014.

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED SO FAR?
Adopted plans can meet the target

Our early analysis indicates that adopted local and regional plans can meet our target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions – if we make the investments and take the actions needed to implement those plans.

This is good news, but there is more work to be done.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?
We're in this together

Local, regional state and federal partnerships are needed to make the investments and take the actions necessary to create great communities while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

What are the challenges to realizing your community visions?

At both the local and regional levels, we face many challenges in carrying out our adopted plans. The Climate Smart Scenarios Project provides an opportunity to work together to build on existing efforts and address these challenges.

Financial
- Funding
- Market demand and lending practices
- Costs and affordability

Civic
- Public acceptance
- Political will
- Governance structures

Regulatory
- Existing codes and regulations
- Alignment of federal, state and local policies

Sources: Regional policy and technical advisory committees, community and business leaders. Scenarios Project Strategy Toolbox (October 2011). Phase 1 Findings (January 2012) and Community Case Studies (Spring 2013)

WHAT INVESTMENTS AND ACTIONS BEST SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY VISION?

Each community is unique

Most of the investments and actions under consideration are already being implemented to varying degrees across the region to realize community visions and other important economic, social and environmental goals.

A one-size-fits-all preferred approach won't meet the needs of our diverse communities. A combination of investments and other actions will help us realize our shared vision for making this region a great place for generations to come.

INVESTMENTS AND ACTIONS THAT REDUCE EMISSIONS ✓ completed ● in progress		WHO HAS A ROLE?			
SUPPORTING LAND USE VISIONS		FEDERAL	STATE	REGIONAL	LOCAL
✓	Adopt 2040 Growth Concept			○	
✓	Adopt local zoning and comp plans				○
✓	Manage urban growth boundary			○	
●	Update community visions if desired				○
MAXIMIZING ENERGY EFFICIENCY					
✓	Adopt Federal fuel economy standards	○	○		
●	Shift to lower carbon fuels	○	○		
●	Shift to low emissions vehicles	○	○	○	○
●	Expand access to electric vehicle technology	○	○	○	○
●	Expand access to car-sharing				○
●	Use a market-based approach to manage parking				○
●	Use technology and "smarter" roads to manage traffic flow and boost efficiency		○	○	○
●	Provide information and incentives to expand use of low carbon travel options		○	○	○
INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES					
●	Maintain streets, highways, bridges and transit		○	○	○
●	Make streets and highways more safe, reliable and connected		○	○	○
●	Make transit more convenient, frequent, accessible and affordable		○	○	○
●	Make walking and biking more safe and convenient		○	○	○
●	Provide schools, services and shopping close to neighborhoods				○

About Metro

Clean air and clean water do not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy, and sustainable transportation and living choices for people and businesses in the region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges and opportunities that affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to providing services, operating venues and making decisions about how the region grows. Metro works with communities to support a resilient economy, keep nature close by and respond to a changing climate. Together, we're making a great place, now and for generations to come.

Stay in touch with news, stories and things to do.

www.oregonmetro.gov/connect

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MAKING A GREAT PLACE

Metro

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WHAT'S NEXT?

November and December 2013 The analysis results are reported back to the Metro Council, regional advisory committees and county-level coordinating committees

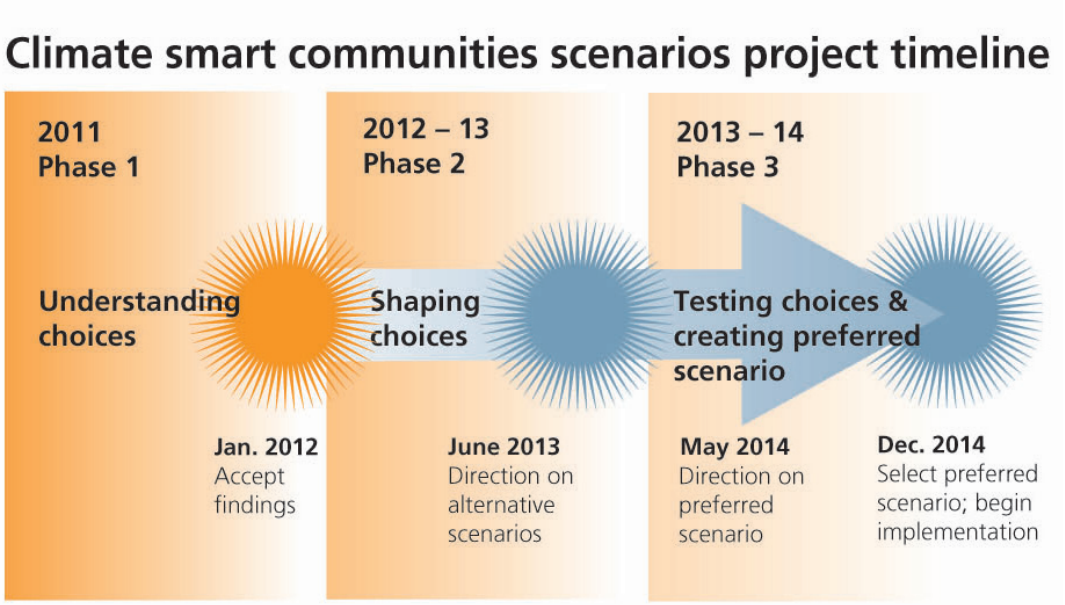
January to April 2014 Community and business leaders, local governments and the public are asked to weigh in on which investments and actions should be included in the region's preferred approach

May 2014 The Metro Council is asked to provide direction to staff on the draft preferred approach

Summer 2014 Evaluation period for preferred approach

September 2014 Final public review of preferred approach

December 2014 Metro Council considers adoption of preferred approach



WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

www.oregonmetro.gov/climatescenarios

Visit the project website to learn more about existing community efforts and their challenges, and to download other publications and reports.

For email updates, send a message to **climatescenarios@oregonmetro.gov**