

Climate Action Recommendations

A Blueprint for Addressing
Climate Change at
the Municipal Level

City of Pensacola
Climate Mitigation
and Adaptation
Task Force

2018

Background

Pensacola City Council recognizes need for a strategic plan to address climate change.

- Resolution to form Climate Task Force
August 2014
- Environmental Advisory Board structure, goals, objectives for Climate Task Force
December 2014
- First meeting of the Climate Task Force
March 2017

Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force

- Elaine Sargent
Chair
350 Pensacola
- Laurie Murphy
Vice Chair
Emerald
Coastkeeper
- Dr. Haris Alibašić
University of
West Florida

- Cynthia Cannon, AICP
Santa Rosa County
- Carrie Stevenson
Escambia County
- Tim Haag
Emerald Coast
Utilities Authority
- Mark Gibson
NAS Pensacola

Advisors:

- Dr. Wade Jeffrey
University of
West Florida
- Christy Johnson, AICP
Florida Department
of Transportation

Goals and Objectives

Our starting point:

- Advance climate mitigation and adaptation strategies.
- Promote participation through education, incentives, and public outreach.
- Suggest ideas for grants, energy efficiency investments, and resources to offset program costs.



Areas of Emphasis

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goals
- Transportation
- Built Environment
- Emergency Planning
- Local Utilities
- Public Health
- Outreach
- Economic Development and Resilience

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goals

Objective:

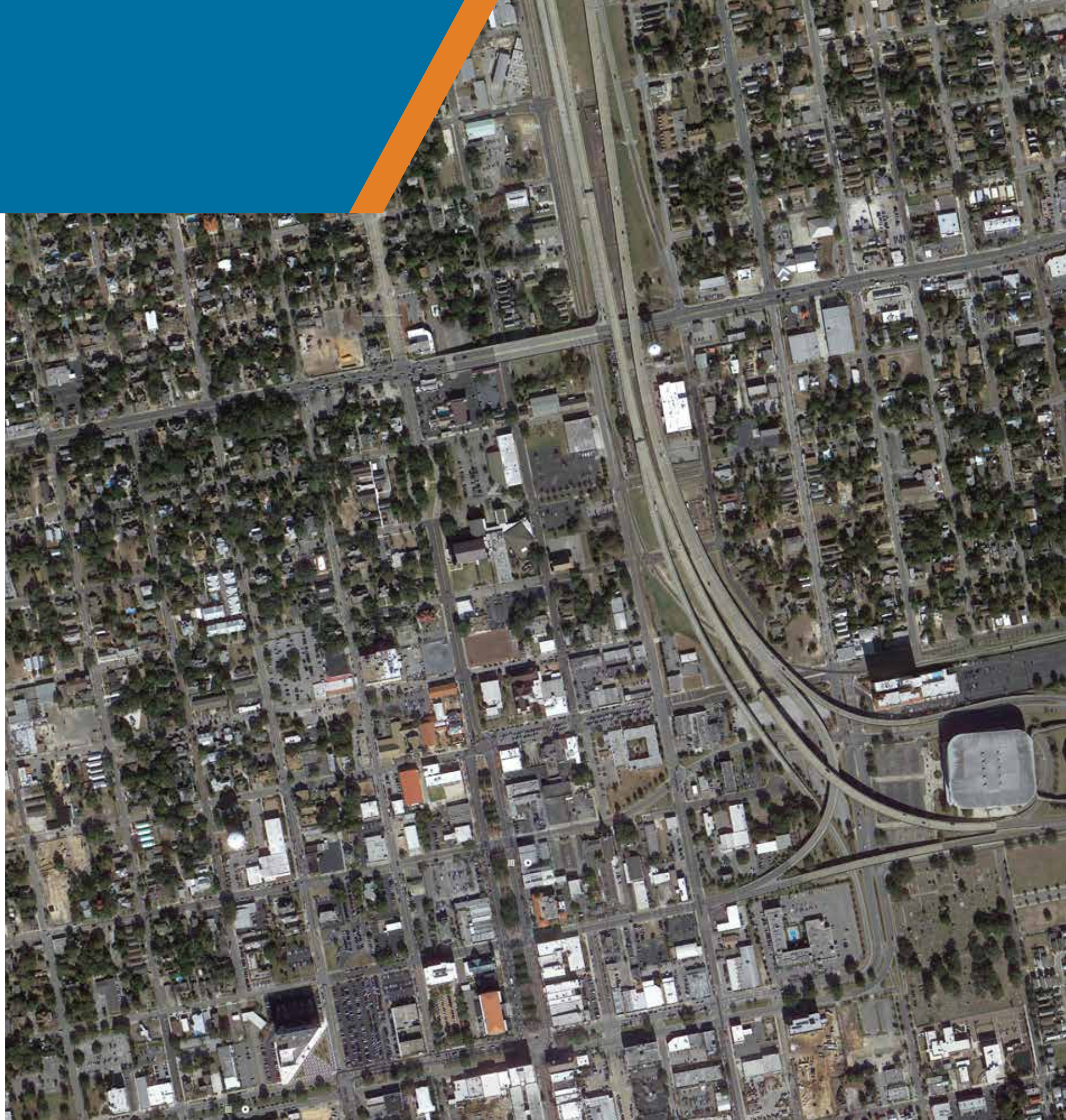
Mitigate the causes of climate change while providing clean energy solutions and a more energy efficient way of life for residents, business interests, and visitors.



Transportation

Objective:

Advance transportation and land-use choices that reduce fossil fuel use and increase resilience to impacts of climate change.



Built Environment

Objective:

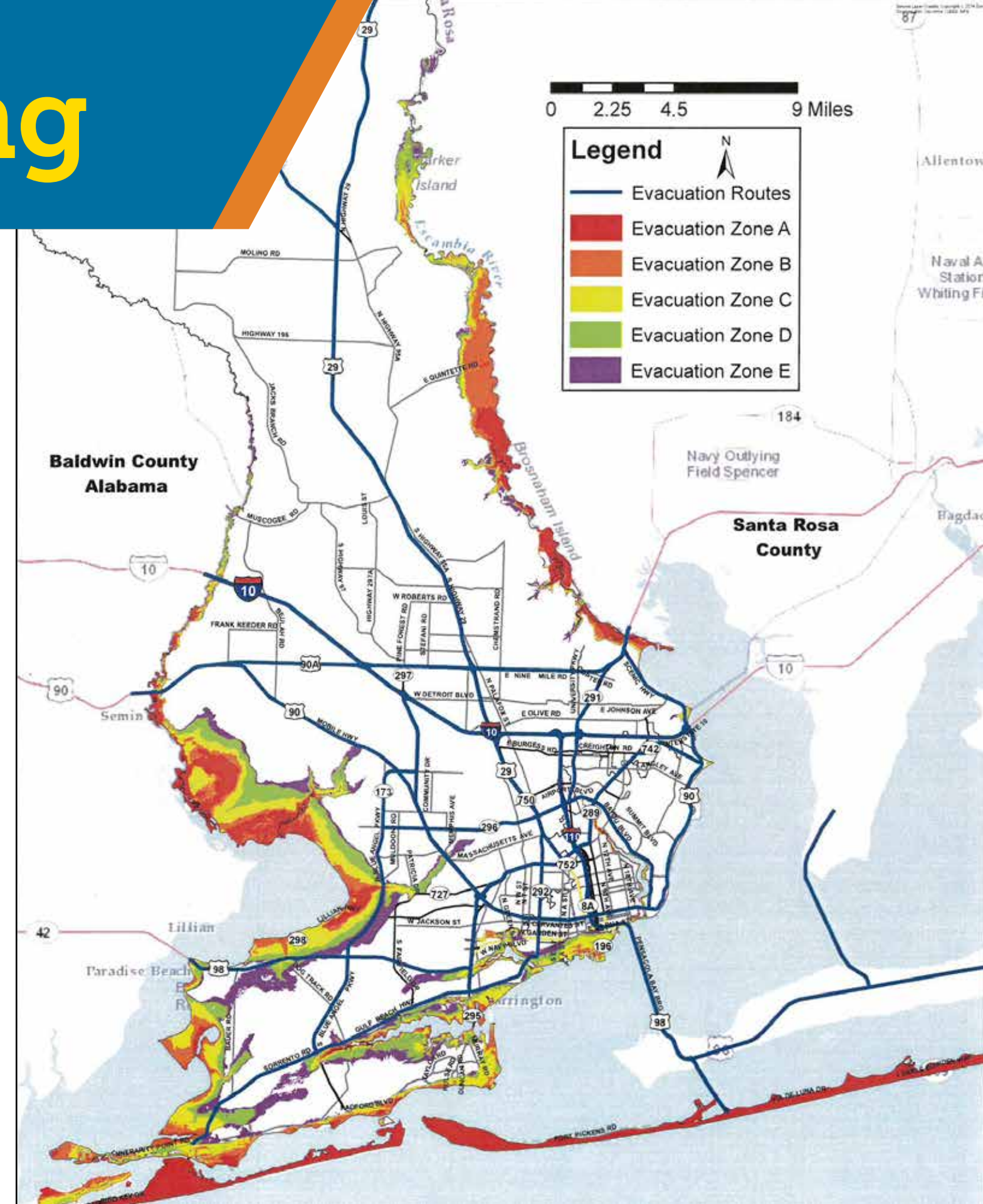
Improve the climate resilience and energy efficiency of new and existing buildings and public infrastructure, and develop adaptation strategies for areas vulnerable to climate change impacts.



Emergency Planning

Objective:

Ensure exceptional planning and coordinated emergency preparedness and post-disaster management in the context of climate change.



Local Utilities

Objective:

Ensure resilience of water resources and improve energy efficiency of utilities by reducing carbon emissions and climate impacts. Transition to zero GHG emissions sources (renewable energy).



Public Health

Objective:

Prepare and protect the public from the adverse health impacts of climate change, including heat-related illnesses, and vector-borne, airborne and water-related diseases.



Outreach

Objective:

Increase opportunities in the community to learn about climate change, participate in decision-making, engage in a green economy, utilize green infrastructure, study health impacts, and reduce population vulnerability.



Economic Development and Resilience

Objective:

Strengthen the local economy through green job opportunities, expand renewable energy and the market for energy efficient products and services, and incentivize energy conservation and retrofits.



Planning

Reduce the ultimate magnitude of climate change.

- Pledge to reduce GHG emissions.
- Complete an inventory of city-wide GHG emissions.
- Join regional/national climate organizations with planning tools.



COMPACT
of **MAYORS**

I.C.L.E.I
Local
Governments
for Sustainability

Planning

- Commit to a 30% renewable energy target by 2030.
- Set goal of 100% renewable energy by 2040.
- Increase and support energy efficiency and conservation efforts.
- Incorporate climate change language in the comprehensive plan.
- Pass local laws and codes that uphold the plan.
- Provide education and outreach.



Planning

Create a highly resilient community.

- Develop emergency management plans.
- Plan for sea level rise using up-to-date projections.
- Apply Low Impact Development principles.



Planning

- Protect open wetlands and riparian buffers.
- Review stormwater Best Management Practices to reduce flooding.
- Encourage compact development to lessen overall stormwater runoff.



Task Force Findings and Recommendations

Priorities for preparing strategic plan to address climate change:

- Incorporate the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation element into the Comprehensive Plan.
- Seek funding to develop a Climate Action Plan or Climate Resilience Plan.
- Complete an inventory of city-wide GHG emissions to begin the mitigation plan.

Task Force Findings and Recommendations

- Conduct a Vulnerability Assessment and establish resilience strategies based on the findings.
- Reestablish the City of Pensacola Office of Sustainability.
- Engage the Environmental Advisory Board to work with City to ensure climate policies are being implemented.
- Pursue grant opportunities for City and regional partners to develop climate adaptation programming.

An aerial photograph of a city waterfront development. In the foreground, a baseball field with a red dirt infield and green grass outfield is visible. To the left of the field is a marina with several white boats docked. Further left is a residential complex with multiple buildings featuring red-tiled roofs. The background shows a dense urban area with various city buildings and streets. A large orange banner with white text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

2021: Going Forward

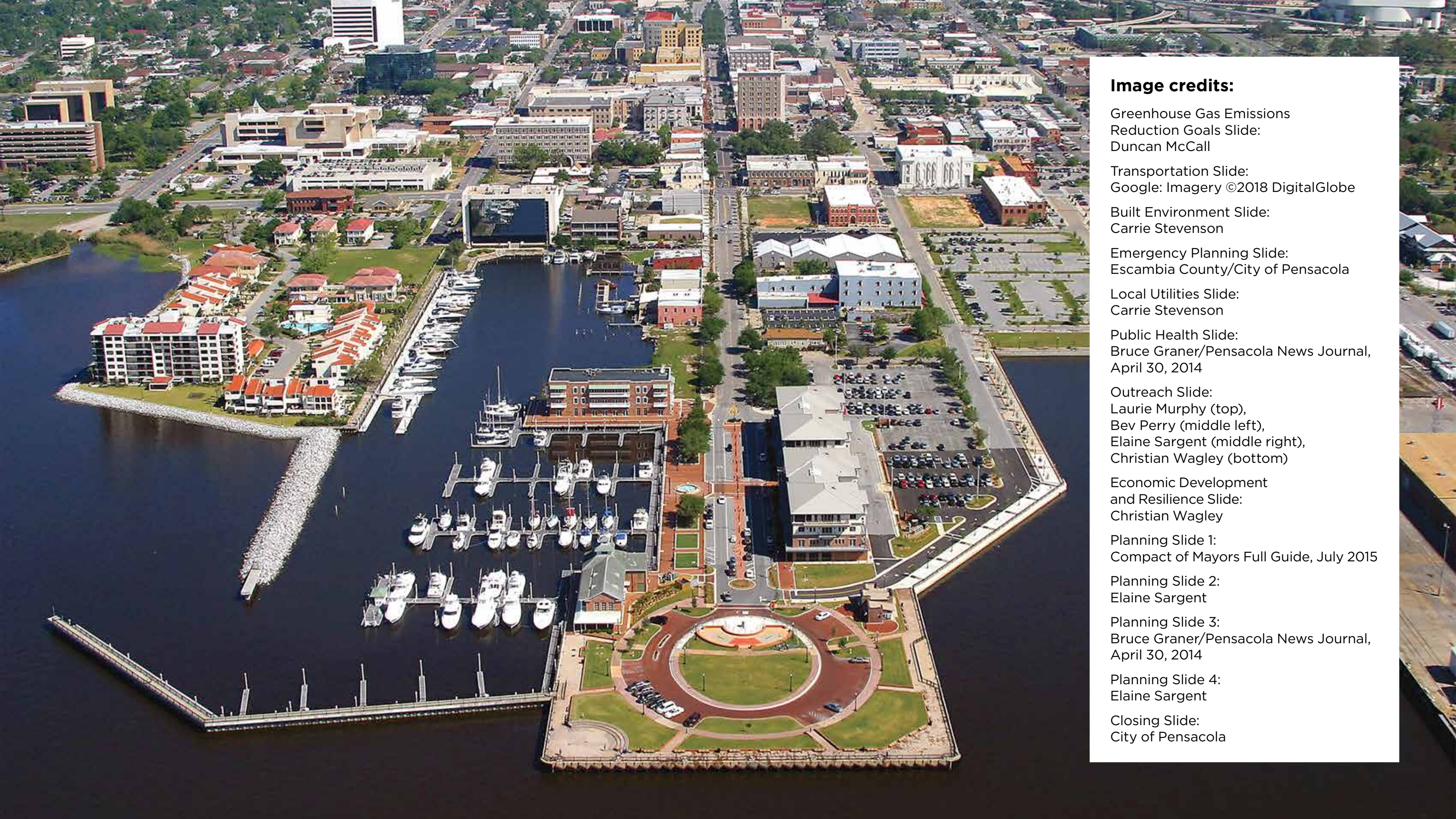


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Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Reduction Goals Slide:
Duncan McCall

Transportation Slide:
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Built Environment Slide:
Carrie Stevenson

Emergency Planning Slide:
Escambia County/City of Pensacola

Local Utilities Slide:
Carrie Stevenson

Public Health Slide:
Bruce Graner/Pensacola News Journal,
April 30, 2014

Outreach Slide:
Laurie Murphy (top),
Bev Perry (middle left),
Elaine Sargent (middle right),
Christian Wagley (bottom)

Economic Development
and Resilience Slide:
Christian Wagley

Planning Slide 1:
Compact of Mayors Full Guide, July 2015

Planning Slide 2:
Elaine Sargent

Planning Slide 3:
Bruce Graner/Pensacola News Journal,
April 30, 2014

Planning Slide 4:
Elaine Sargent

Closing Slide:
City of Pensacola