



Equity Chapter Update

Land Use Advisory Committee

Angela R. Torres, Equity Sponsor for *Imagine 2050*

May 16, 2024



Topics for Today



- Equity Framework
- Environmental Justice Framework
- Community-Centered Engagement Framework
- Anti-Displacement Framework
- Land, Water, People Commitments & the American Indian Advisory Council

Imagine 2050 Direction



Council member direction

- Equity should be at the center of policy and process
- Center community voices
- Be bold
- Be ambitious
- Councilmembers support positive change
- Met Council serves all people of this region

Council value and Regional goal



Our region is equitable and inclusive.

Racial inequities and injustices experienced by historically marginalized communities have been eliminated; and every person feels welcome, included, and empowered.

*~ Final language endorsed
January 2024*

Defining Equity

Equity is a process

- Equity centers Black communities, Indigenous communities, and peoples of color, LGBTQIA people, people of marginalized genders, immigrants, people of low wealth, and people with disabilities.
- Equity understands inequitable policies, practices, and cultures are integral to the history of our state and country, understands these historic and current inequities lead to unjust patterns of resource distribution, and actively seeks to correct these unjust patterns.
- Importantly, equity repositions community as experts in their history, needs, solutions, and resources.

Equity Framework

Grounding Concepts

Contextualized

Ensures solutions are addressing a systemic inequity



Community-Centered

We are working with the impacted population to co-create solutions



Reparative

Creating solutions that are commensurate with what caused the inequity

~ Endorsed September 2023

Environmental Justice Framework



Defining Environmental Justice

Environmental Justice is:

**the right for all residents to live
in a clean, safe environment
that contributes to a healthy quality of life**

Conditions for success

Grounded in the Council's Equity Framework:

Expand the scope of how we measure the **efficacy of Council projects** through a broad environmental justice lens.

Build upon current Council structures and processes to define **environmental justice as a necessary and explicit component** of Council work.

Reconcile the Council with overburdened communities through **shared environmental justice values**.

Environmental Justice Framework



People-centered,
data-driven
decision making

Contextualized



Prioritized
engagement with
overburdened
communities

Community-centered



Community
benefits beyond
harm mitigation

Reparative

Community-Centered Engagement Framework



Principles for engagement

Equity

Respect

Transparency

Relevance

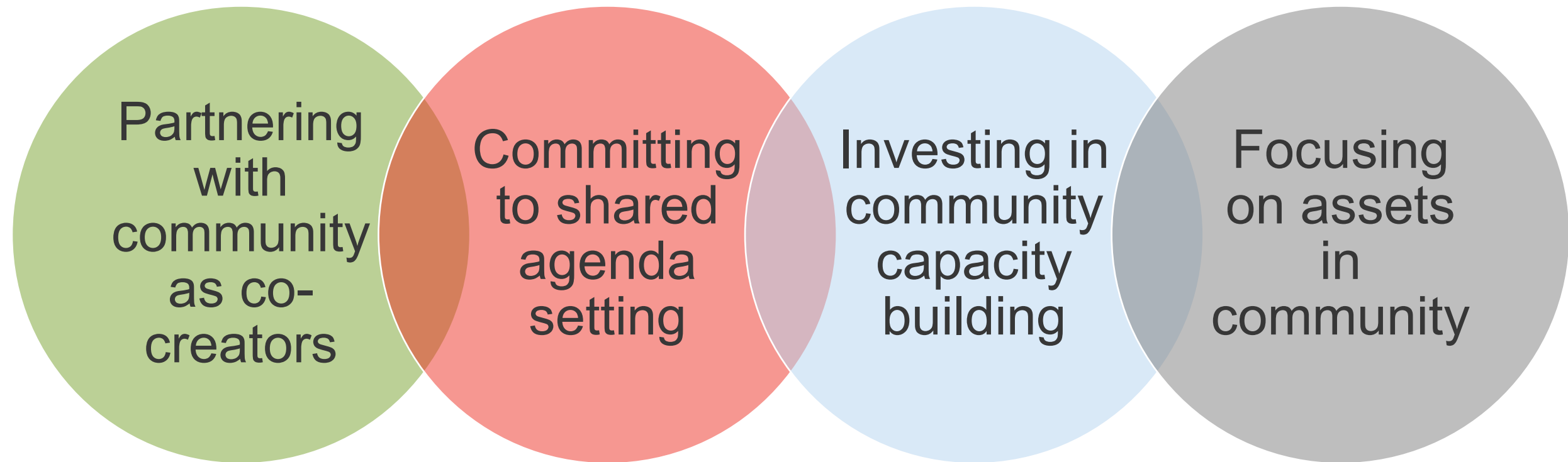
Accountability

Collaboration

Inclusion

Cultural
competence

Values of Engagement



Practices of Engagement



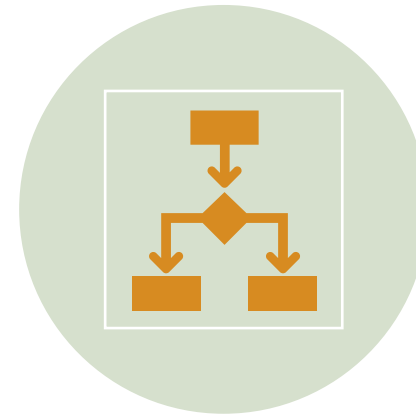
Embrace nationally recognized standards of engagement, including the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2), with small modifications.



Prioritize community partnerships that empower and compensate community leaders and individuals in guiding decision-making.



Support engagement and research cohorts to both support community voices in planning processes, but also build capacity for leadership in public processes and decision-making.



Intentionally identify impacted communities, to ensure their involvement in a decision-making process.



Dedicate budgets to engagement in a way that supports community voices and builds community capacity for public decision-making.



Prioritize engagement with overburdened communities and recognize the need for engagement processes to include shared agenda-setting and decision-making.

Anti-Displacement Framework



Defining Anti-Displacement

An active process of centering and empowering communities to protect their home, access to resources, and sense of belonging from loss due to a Council investment or policy.

Key components of Anti-Displacement



Preservation of existing cultural connection

Creation and strengthening of community inclusiveness

Justice-centered; repairing historical injustices and empowering overburdened communities to co-create best practices and actions to remedy historic and ongoing harm

Prioritize overburdened communities that are most impacted by displacement

Anti-Displacement Framework Strategies

Increase the ability for residents to keep their housing, amenities, health and/or sense of belonging in a neighborhood.

Council investments go through an anti-displacement risk assessment

Prioritize projects that support community connection and anti-displacement in our grant programs

Provide best practices and resources through engagement and collaboration with overburdened communities

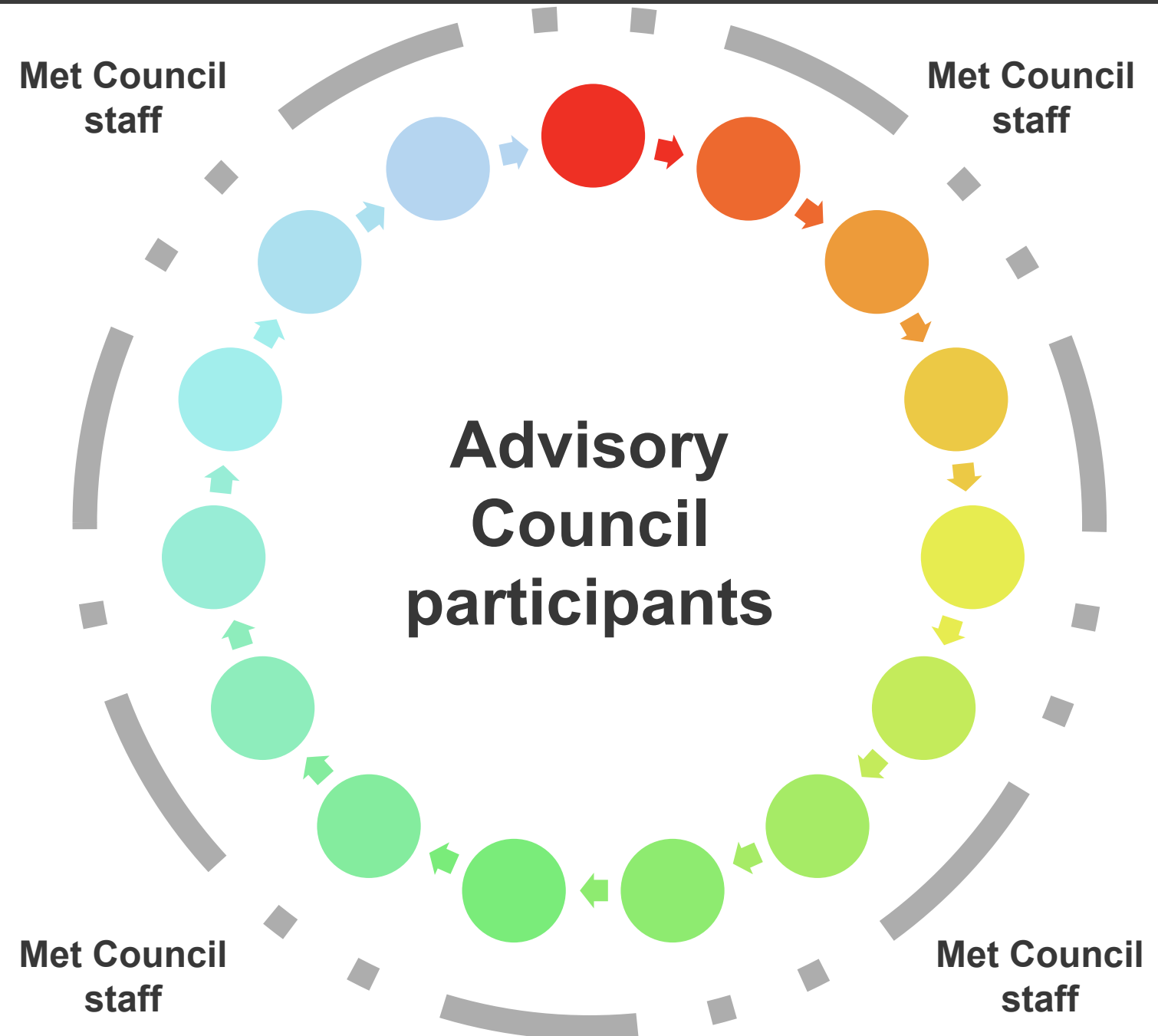
Land, Water, and People Commitments and the American Indian Advisory Council



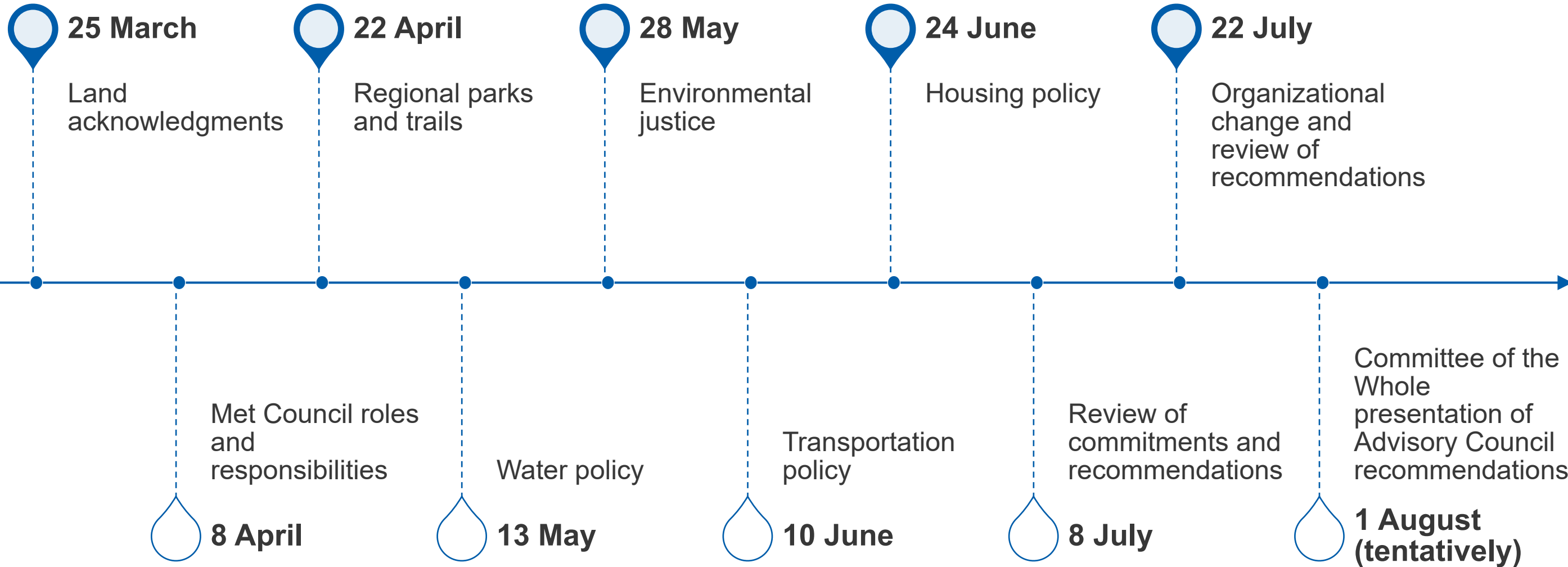
Co-creation process and building trust

Inside – Outside Circle

- Community speaks first (inside)
 - Talk amongst themselves
 - Speak to broad question prompts
- Council staff listen (outside)
 - Listen and take notes
 - Provide transcribed notes for Advisory Council participants
 - Provide summaries of discussion to others



Outline of meetings and agendas





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