



IMAGINE²⁰₅₀

Scenario Planning Consolidated Findings and Connections to Policy

Metropolitan Council Meeting

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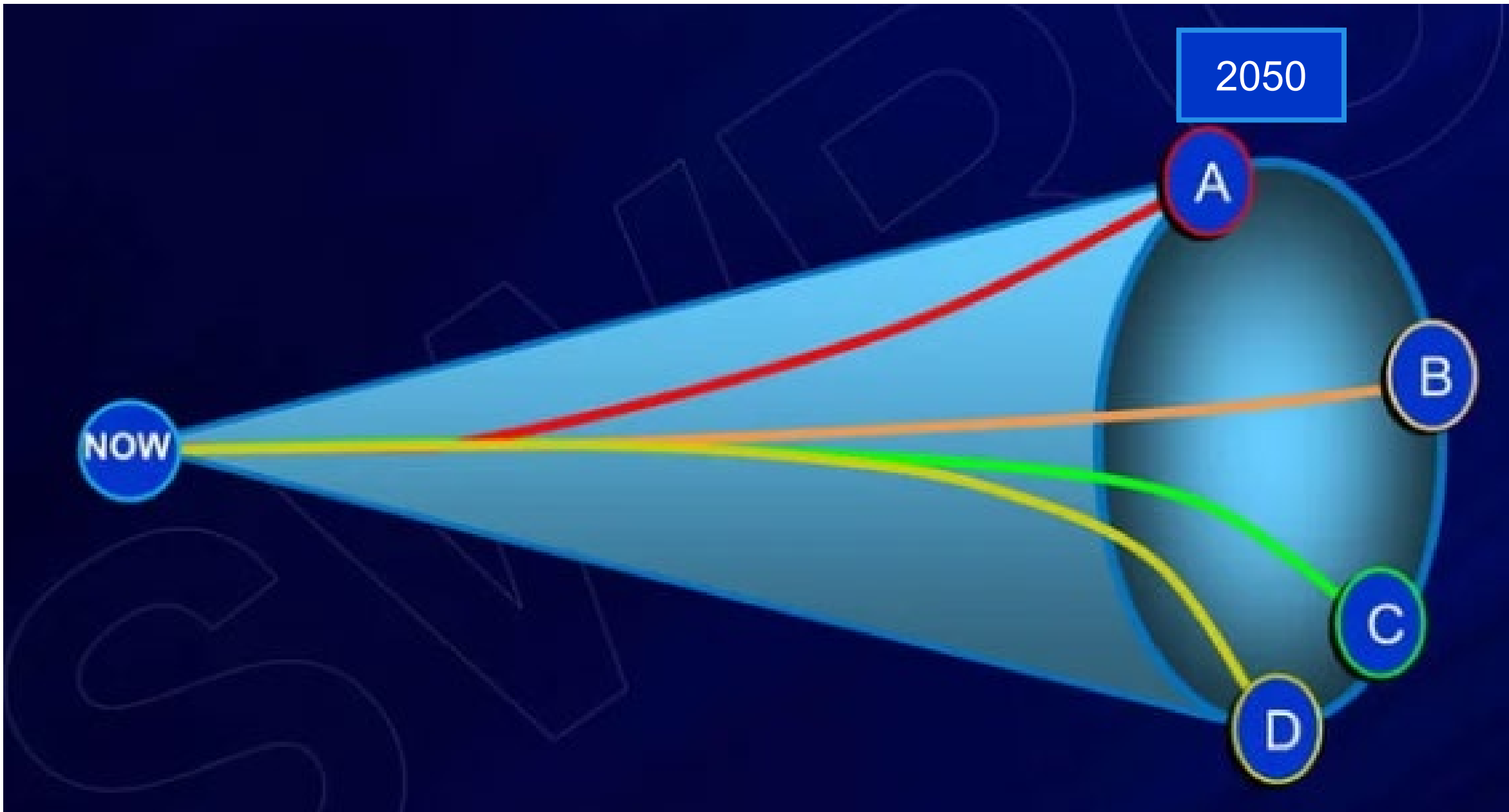


The Purpose of Today's Presentation

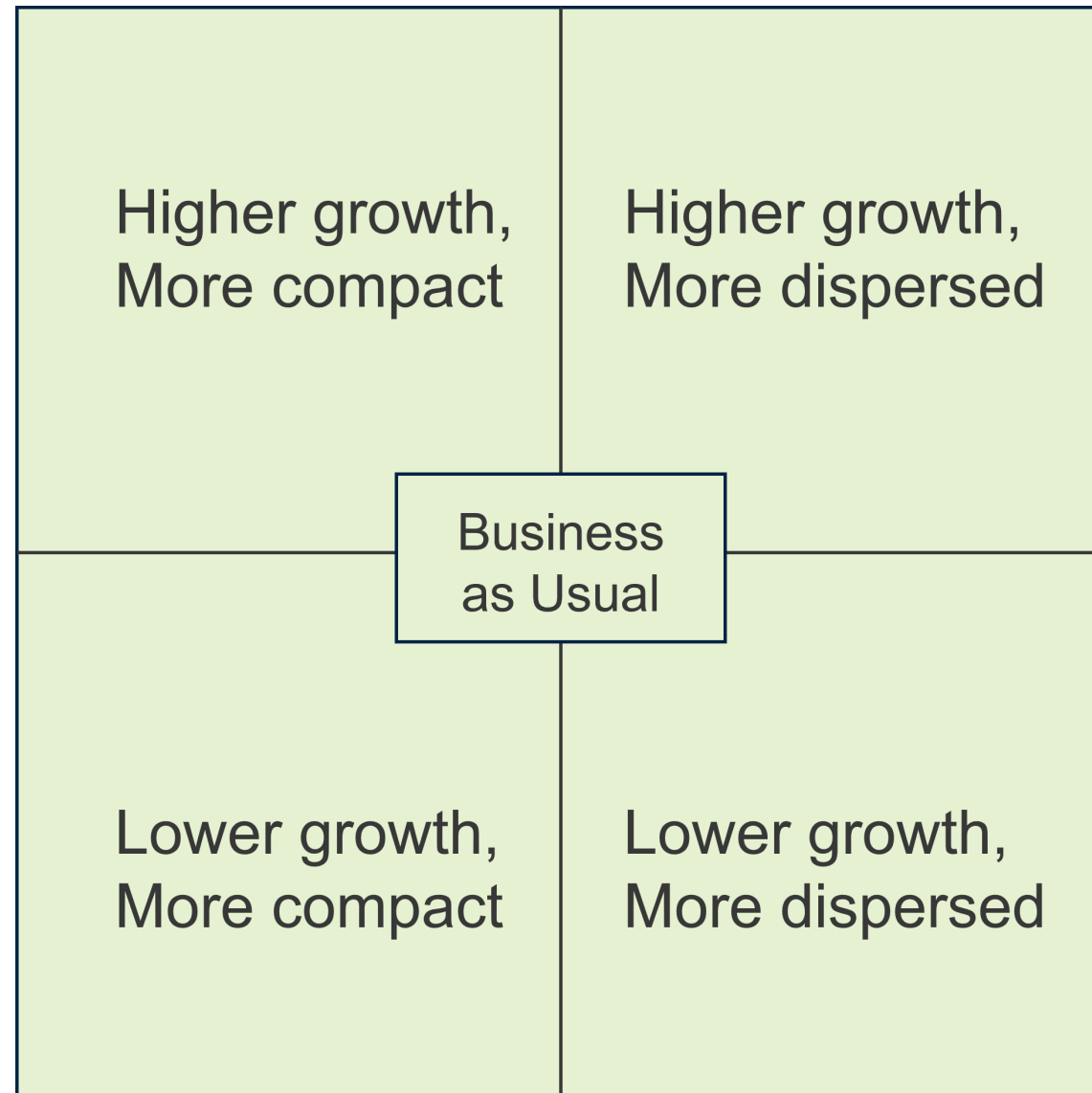


- Bring scenario analysis findings together and look at them as a whole
- Share the overall lessons from scenario findings
- Discuss policy direction

Why are we doing scenario planning?



Scenarios Framework



Considerations

How much will our population grow?

Where will people decide to move (market demand)?

Compact vs. dispersed growth/development patterns

Growth vs. Development

Growth

- Refers to the location of growth *across the region*.
- In all scenarios, every part of the region grows.
- Primarily the Council's role.

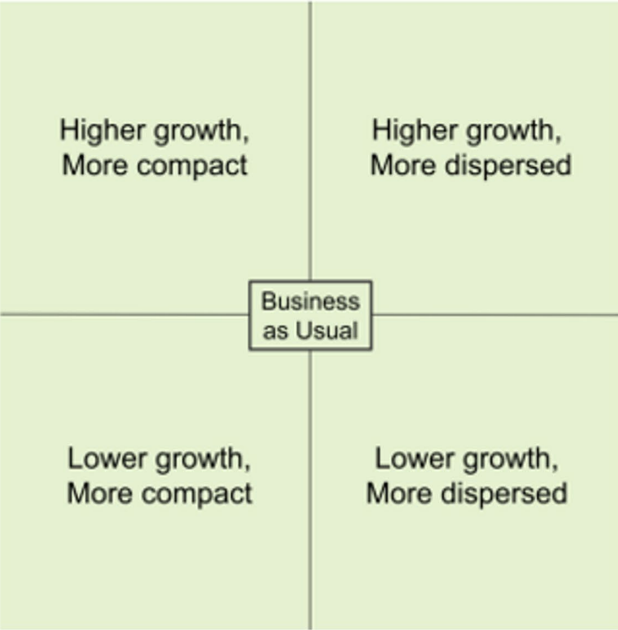
Development

- Refers to the location and built form of development *within each community*.
- Built form will look different in different types of communities.
- Primarily the role of cities and townships.

From Analysis to Policy

Analysis Phase

How might the region's growth vary?



How would those futures impact the region?



How do those impacts align with our goals?

- Equitable Inclusive Region
- Healthy Safe Communities
- Dynamic Resilient Region
- Mitigated Adapted Resilient Climate
- Protected Restored Natural Systems

Policy Phase

What policies are needed to achieve our goals?



Example: Land Use Alignments with Goals

Land Use Findings

In compact scenarios, we use land more intensely and efficiently, regardless of how much the region grows.

In compact scenarios, there is less pressure on the region's agricultural areas and natural systems.

Alignments with Goals

In compact scenarios, it is easier to protect the region's natural systems because the footprint of growth and development is smaller.

In compact scenarios, the region's economy is more dynamic and resilient because development doesn't encroach on agricultural land.

Findings that align with regional goals

Compact Scenarios

- More efficient use of land (including agricultural land protection).
- Lower GHG emissions (total as well as transportation and residential building related).
- Higher job accessibility.
- Higher viability for transit.
- Lower cost of meeting affordable housing need.
- Less chloride runoff.
- More efficient use of wastewater infrastructure.
- Lower risk of environmental degradation.
- Less fragmentation and degradation of natural systems.

Dispersed Scenarios

- Lower risk of displacement and gentrification.
- Less nitrate runoff.

Main Takeaways

Regional goals are easier to achieve in compact scenarios.

We face more challenges to achieving our regional goals in dispersed scenarios.

How do we respond?

How do we guide growth to achieve our goals under all potential futures?

Are there robust policies that could help us achieve our goals in all scenarios?

How do we tailor policies for different types of communities?

High-level Policy Guidance

Guide the region toward compact growth and development to move the region closer to our regional goals.

Promote compact development to address the challenges present in dispersed scenarios.

Policy Example – Land Use



Density Policy Concepts

- Increase minimum density requirements.
- Restrain MUSA expansion and establish criteria for when expansion will be authorized.
- Establish a minimum density requirement for all new connections to the regional sewer system.

Policy Example - Housing



Displacement

Potential outcome:

- Growth could lead to displacement of low-income residents.

Potential policy response:

- Build affordable housing where displacement risk is highest.
- Preserve naturally occurring affordable housing.

Policy Example – Aligning Land Use and Transportation



Compact Development and Transit

Potential outcome:

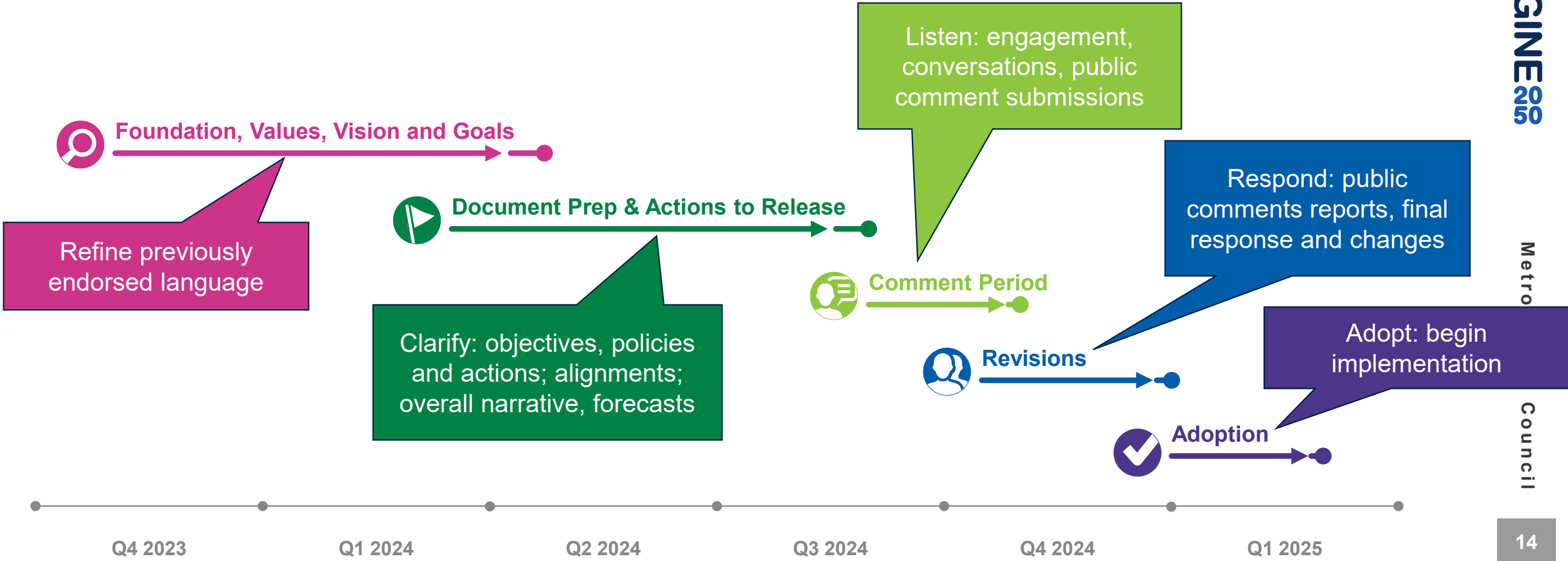
- Transit with compact development is financially more viable. More residents are served by transit.

Potential policy response:

- Encourage compact and connected development around potential transit station areas.
- Invest in transit that connects activity centers.

Next Steps

What can you expect to focus on during the next 11 months?





Thank You

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