

# Carbon Reduction Strategy | MPO Coordination



# Agenda

- Presentation Purpose
- Background
- CRS Public Engagement
- Carbon Reduction Strategies & Categories
  - Mentimeter activity



# Purpose

- Inform attendees of what the CRS is
- Inform attendees of the CRS partner and public engagement
- Attendees have the opportunity to provide input that will shape the direction and content for the CRS categories and strategies



# CRS Background



# What is the Carbon Reduction Program?

- \$20.5-20.9 million annually to spend in Minnesota
- Distributed based on populations, not system ownership
  - State receives 35% of those funds annually (~\$7.1 million)
  - Metropolitan Planning Organization areas are sub-allocated specific amounts
  - Remaining areas with populations less than 50,000 receive total in MN annually (~\$5.6 million; ~27.3%)
- Currently only programming FY23 and FY24



# Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) | Eligible Project Typologies

- Traffic monitoring/management
- Truck stop electrification systems
- Public transportation
- Transportation alternative (on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation)
- Advanced transportation and congestion management
- ITS and V2I
- Energy efficient lighting and traffic control
- Carbon reduction strategy
- Congestion pricing, TDM, tolling and VMT reduction
- Reduce environmental and community freight impacts
- Alternative fuel vehicles and charging/fueling
- Zero-emission construction equipment and facilities
- Diesel engine retrofits
- Projects that do not add new capacity



# What is the Carbon Reduction Strategy?

- 3 guiding policy documents
- Due to FHWA by November 15, 2023
- Guides FY25 and beyond project selection



# CRS Public Engagement



# CRS | Engagement Process

## ✓ Engagement Plan – complete

- Engagement – began in May 2023 through July 2023
- Engagement summary – July/August 2023
- Category & Strategy development/refinement – started May 2023
- Draft document – outlined, filling in as content is available
- Engagement – 2nd round in August/September 2023
- Final document – Due to FHWA by November 15, 2023



- Let's Talk Transportation

<https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/carbon-reduction-strategy>

- Survey – Live!
- In-person events / Pop-ups
- Social media
- Community Roundtables
- Engagement in a Box
  - Share the word!

## Audiences

- Public
- Tribal governments
- Transportation Partners
  - MPOs
  - ATPs
  - Local/regional transit operators
  - State agencies
  - FHWA/FTA
- Special interest groups
- MnDOT
- Private sector businesses



# Let's Talk Transportation - CRS

## Carbon Reduction Strategy



The bipartisan infrastructure law adopted in November 2021 created the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). That program provides funds for states to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.

### New federal program

Minnesota receives approximately \$20.9 million per year for this program. MnDOT is creating a Carbon Reduction Strategy (CRS) to inform how to spend the CRP funds and reduce carbon from transportation in Minnesota. MnDOT will submit the CRS to the federal government by November 15, 2023.



### Minnesota's CRS

Minnesota's CRS will identify priority strategies to reduce carbon from transportation in Minnesota. The prioritized strategies will guide how to spend CRP funds.

### Example carbon reduction strategies

- Electric vehicle and charging infrastructure
- Public transit
- Bicycle system expansion
- Sidewalks and trails
- Ridesharing programs
- Traffic operations and congestion management
- Energy-efficient streetlights
- Zero-emission construction equipment
- Sustainable pavements

### Get involved

- [Sign up for email updates](#)
- Take our survey below.



STAY INFORMED  
Subscribe for email updates

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#### Key Dates

Carbon Reduction Strategy Public Engagement - Moorhead  
**April 20 2023**

Carbon Reduction Strategy Public Engagement - Brainerd  
**June 03 2023**

Carbon Reduction Strategy Public Engagement - Minneapolis  
**June 10 2023**

Carbon Reduction Strategy Public Engagement - Rochester  
**June 17 2023**

Carbon Reduction Strategy Public Engagement - St. Paul  
**June 17 2023**

[more..](#)

## Purpose



INFORM



CONSULT

<https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/carbon-reduction-strategy>



# CRS | MPO engagement

- MPO Director meeting with all 8 MPOs at the May Directors' Meeting
- Virtual coordination meetings
- MPO Director meeting with all 8 MPOs at the August Workshop
  - Share the draft CRS & soliciting input
  - Facilitated discussion about support needed for CRP solicitation, including but not limited to a toolkit, scoring criteria, regional priorities

## Additional opportunities

- CRP subgroup meetings
- Let's Talk Transportation
- CRS PMT meetings
- Public survey
- CRS virtual open house in May/June
- MPO/ATP specific survey
- CRS virtual open house in Aug/Sept
- Social media posts
- Host a pop-up
- Share the word



# CRS | Engagement events

Date	Event	Community	Lead
April 20	MSUM Earth Day	Moorhead	Partnership4Health
June	Saint Paul Farmers Market (Lowertown)	St. Paul	Consultant team
Multiple events	Farmer's Market, Riverfront Art Fair, Community Bike Ride	Mankato	Consultant team
June	Waite Park Farmers Market	St. Cloud	St. Cloud Area Planning Organization
June (Thursdays)	Cedar River Farmers Market	Austin	Local partner
June 3	Tour of Lakes social ride	Brainerd	Consultant team
June 10	Minneapolis Open Streets	Minneapolis	Consultant team
June 17	Rochester Farmers Market	Rochester	Consultant team
June 17	St. Paul Eco Fair	St. Paul	MnDOT staff
June 17	Loop the Lake Festival	Bemidji	Northwest Minnesota ATP
June 22	St. Cloud Granite City Days	St. Cloud	St. Cloud Area Planning Organization
June 24	International Friendship Festival	Pelican Rapids	Partnership 4 Health
July 12 – 14	Sidewalk Days Festival	Duluth	Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC)
August 24 – Sept 4	State Fair – Eco Booth*	MnDOT-OTAT & MPCA	Statewide



# Virtual community roundtables - organizations

Organization	Focus area	City	MPO/ATP region
Duluth League of Women Voters	Women and girls	Duluth	MIC
The Arc West Central Region	People with disabilities	Moorhead	Metro COG
Afro American Development Association	Racial Minorities	Moorhead	Metro COG
Minnesota Council of Churches Mankato Refugee Services	Religious institutions, refugee organizations	Mankato	MAPO
Bolder Options	Low income, racial minorities, youth	Rochester	ROCOG
Council of African American Students	Racial Minorities	St. Cloud	APO
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council	Racial Minorities	Statewide	Statewide
Resource Center for Independent Living	People with disabilities	East Grand Forks	GFEGF MPO



# Engagement in a box

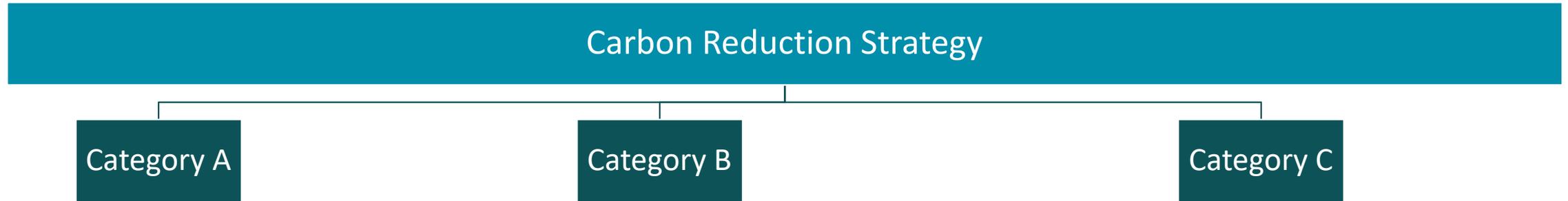
- 1. Project background**
  - a. Summary of key topics
    - Federal mandate
    - Fund availability
    - Past engagement
    - What MnDOT is already doing
- 2. Email blast content**
  - a. Sample project email for public to engage with survey
  - b. Sample project email to local partners to engage with agency survey (if created)
- 3. Social media content**
  - a. Social art
  - b. Social copy
  - c. Links to MnDOT social media posts
- 4. Handout**
  - a. Featuring website link and QR code to survey



# Carbon Reduction Strategies & Categories



# CRS Categories

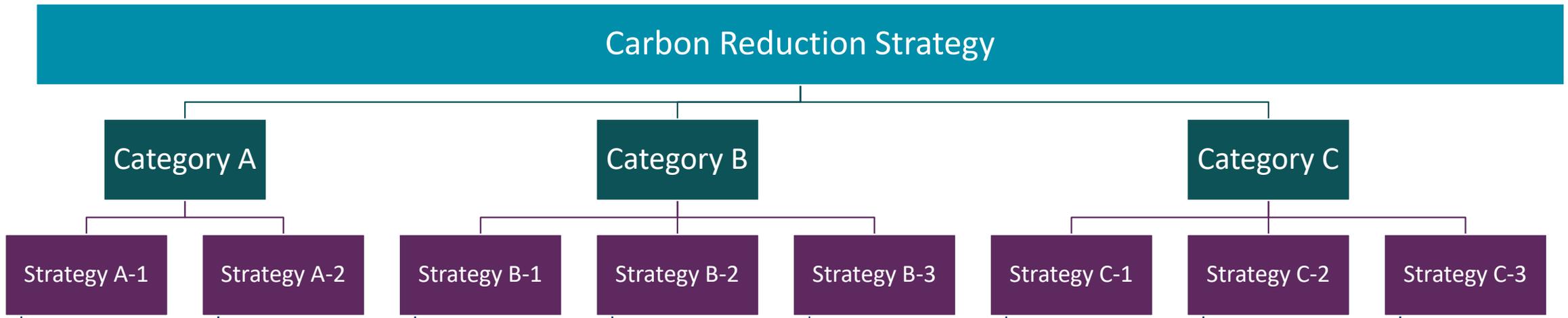


# CRS | Categories & Strategies

- Shorter travel distances and walkable communities
- Enhance public transit
- Ridesharing and alternative commute options
- Electric vehicles and alternative fuels
- System management and operations
- Low-carbon construction materials and maintenance



# CRS Categories

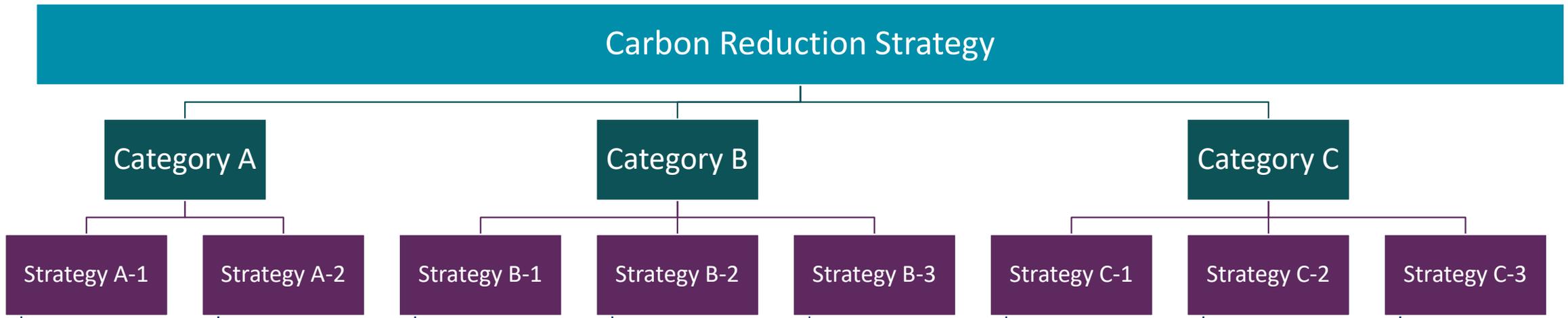


## Which of these strategies should be prioritized for the category: System Management and Operations?

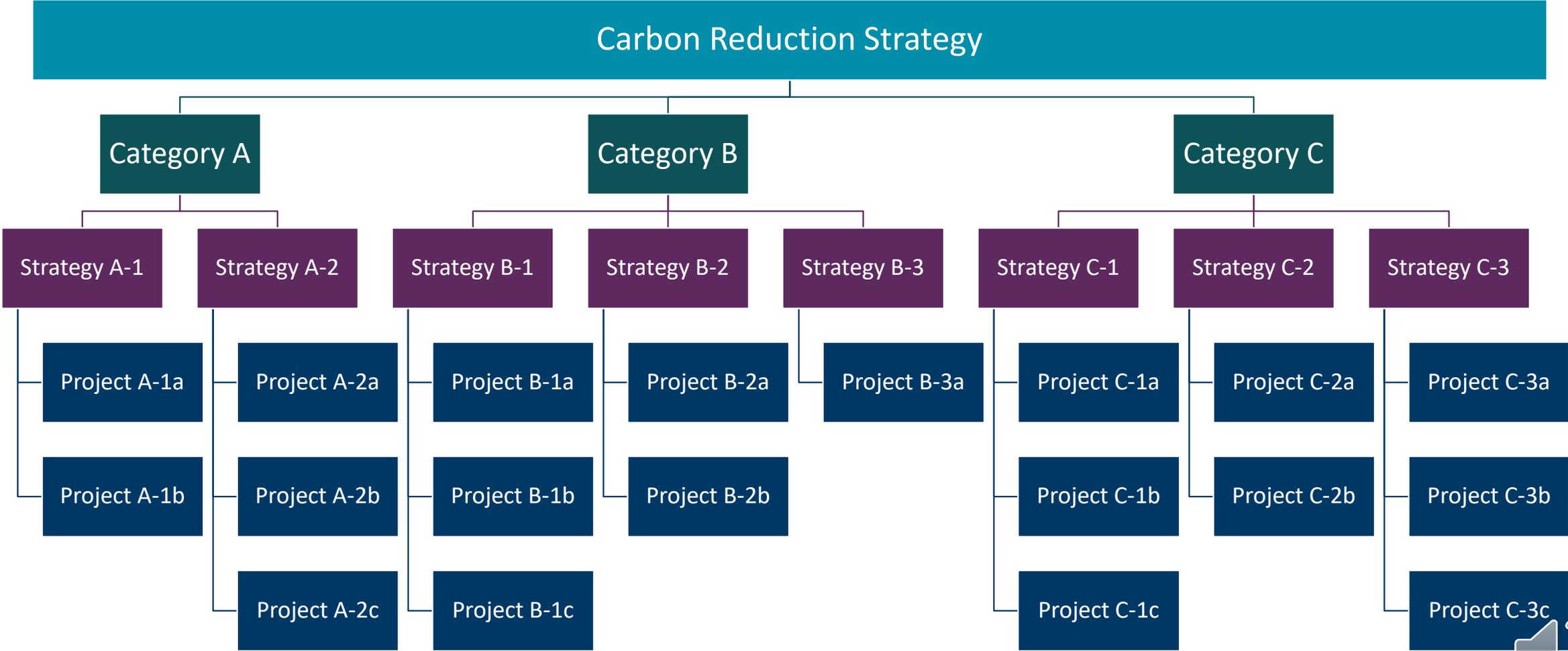
- 1st | Speed control, enforcement, safety education
- 2nd | Traffic signal improvements / coordination
- 3rd | Other ITS / management strategies
- 4th | Managed lanes
- 5th | General system management and operations
- 6th | Bottleneck removal
- 7th | Anti-idling
- 8th | Automated / connected vehicle technology
- 9th | Traveler information systems



# CRS Categories



# CRS Categories



# CRS | Categories & Strategies

- Menti survey
- Complete within 1-week of the meeting



# Questions

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<https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/carbon-reduction-strategy>

