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# Bay Area Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

Climate Protection Committee  
November 19, 2015

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# Overview

- Description of consumption-based GHG inventory
- Methodology
- Results / Findings
- Potential uses
- Policy implications



# What is a Consumption-Based Inventory?

- Conventional emissions inventory focuses on economic output: emissions from goods & services produced in a given area
- Consumption-based emissions inventory (CBEI) estimates GHG emissions embedded in goods & services consumed by people residing within a given area
- CBEI attributes all emissions to the end user/consumer
  - Regardless of where goods & services are produced
- CBEI includes full life-cycle emissions for each product or service:
  - Production: extraction, processing, production & shipping
  - Use
  - Disposal / recycling
- Deliverables: inventory tables & graphs at regional & city scale
  - Maps showing GHG footprint at fine-grained local scale



# Why develop a CBEI?

- Production-based inventory does not tell the whole story
- Modern economy is highly integrated, national & global in scale
- Major portion of goods & services are imported to region
- Quantify and account for (indirect) emissions that we generate beyond our boundaries
- Provide a more complete analysis of our true GHG footprint
- Especially relevant in affluent areas (like Bay Area) where:
  - High consumption of goods & services
  - Economic output is dominated by service & information sectors
  - Limited production of heavy-duty goods with high GHG content



# Potential Uses of CBEI

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- Inform our Regional Climate Protection Strategy
- Identify potential GHG reduction policies
- Assist climate planning in local cities
- Help Bay Area residents reduce their GHG footprint
- Compare Bay Area GHG footprint to other areas



# CBEI Methodology

- Collaboration with UC Berkeley Energy Resources Group:
  - Cool Climate Network - Chris Jones, PhD. <http://coolclimate.berkeley.edu/>
- Bottom-up approach: Start at household level & scale up
- Follow the money: Develop an expenditure profile for average household in each US Census Block Group in the Bay Area
- Apply appropriate emissions factor for each type of good or service:
  - **\$\$ (by expenditure type) x GHG emission factor = GHG emissions**
- Emission factors include full life-cycle emissions for each product:
  - Key source: *Comprehensive Environmental Data Archive*
  - Used Bay Area-specific data & emissions factors whenever available



# Major Expenditure Categories

## Transportation:

- Motor vehicle production
- Vehicle maintenance
- Motor vehicle fuel consumption
- Public transportation
- Air travel

## Housing:

- Construction
- Maintenance
- Residential energy use
- Water
- Waste

7.4

17.5

27.6

41.3

## Food:

- Grains & cereals
- Fruits & vegetables
- Dairy
- Meat
- Other

## Goods:

- Clothing
- Furniture & appliances
- Personal care products
- Books, newspapers, CDs

## Services:

- Health care
- Education
- Financial services
- Communication
- Entertainment

# Example for Automobile

## Upstream

### Individual Parts

Production, including upstream emissions for each part

### Vehicle Assembly

### Shipping to Dealer

## In-Use

### Fuel Consumption

- Fuel economy
- Fuel type
- Driving conditions

Upstream emissions from refining gasoline

### Vehicle Maintenance

## Downstream

### Landfill

### Recycling / re-use (credit)





# Key Factors

Cool Climate Network model includes 30+ factors

But six factors account for 92% of variation in GHG footprint:

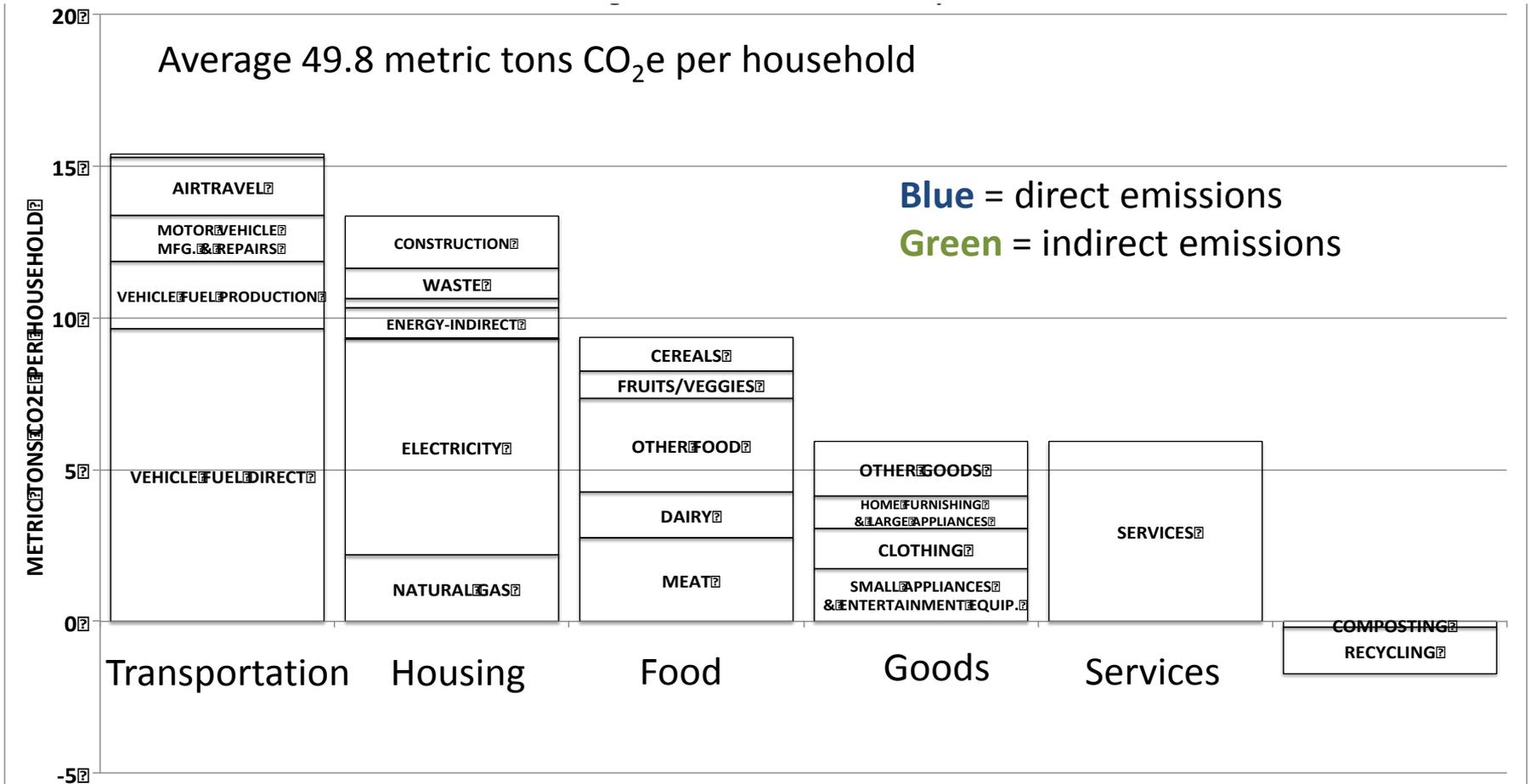
- household size (# people)
- size of home (square footage of dwelling unit)
- population density of neighborhood
- carbon intensity of electricity
- vehicle ownership rate
- household income



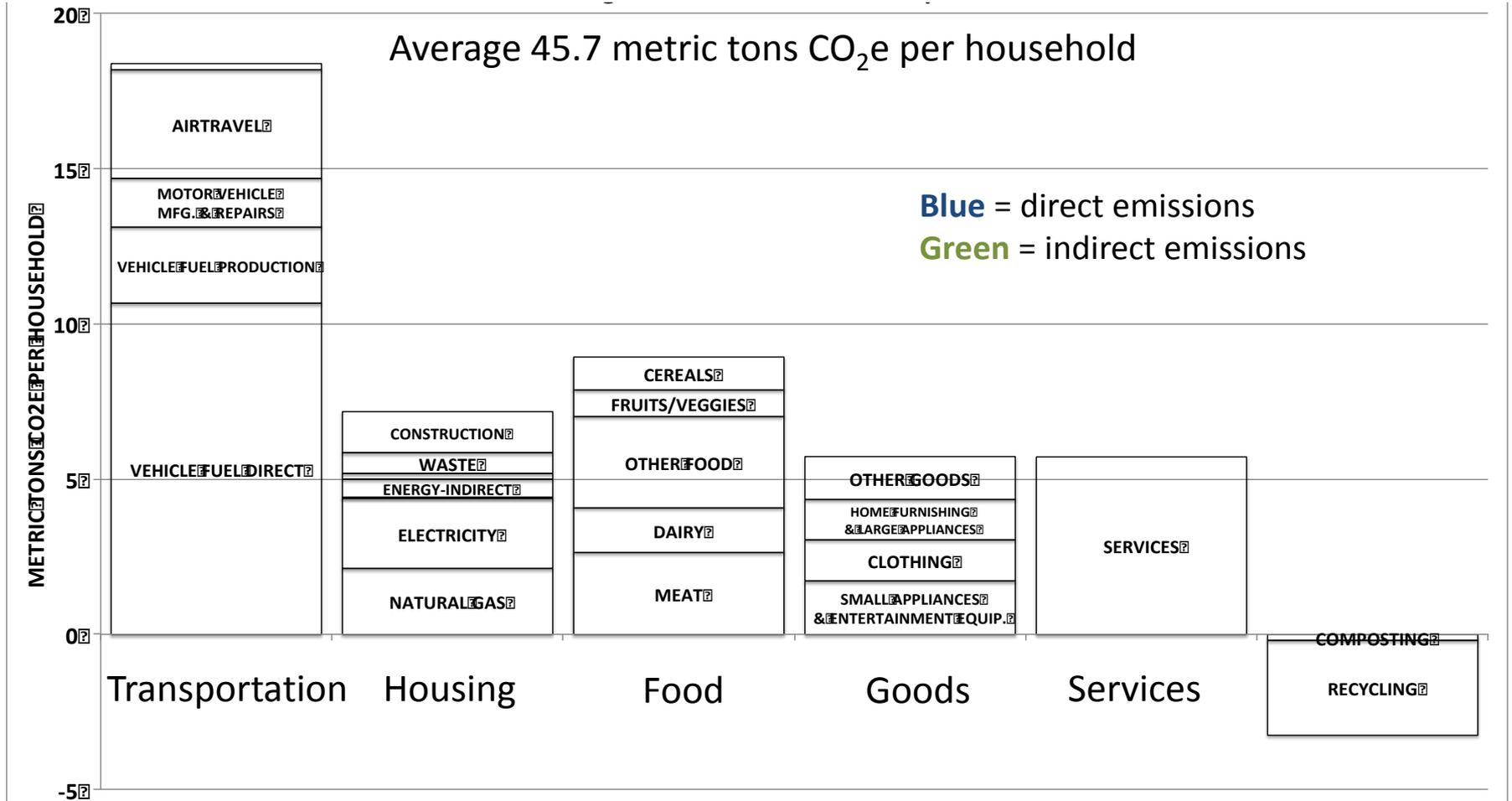
# GHG Emissions and HH Income

- Household income has strong influence on emissions related to transportation, goods, and services
- Lower income households spend larger portion of income on basics of food & shelter (housing)
- As income increases, people spend more on discretionary goods & services

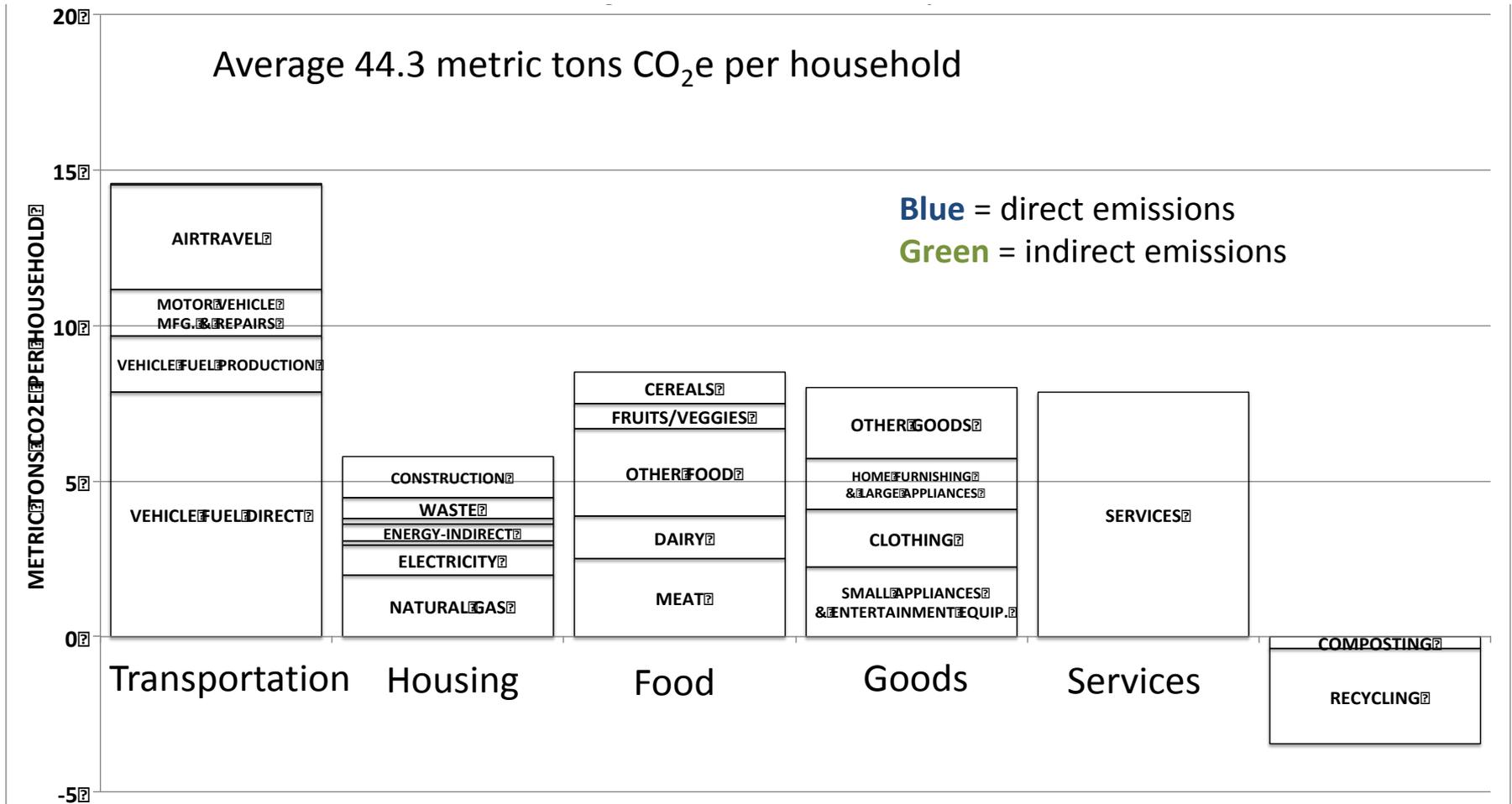
# US Average Household GHG Footprint

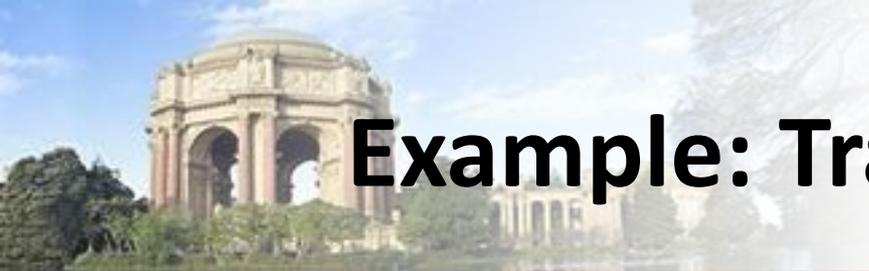


# California Average Household GHG Footprint



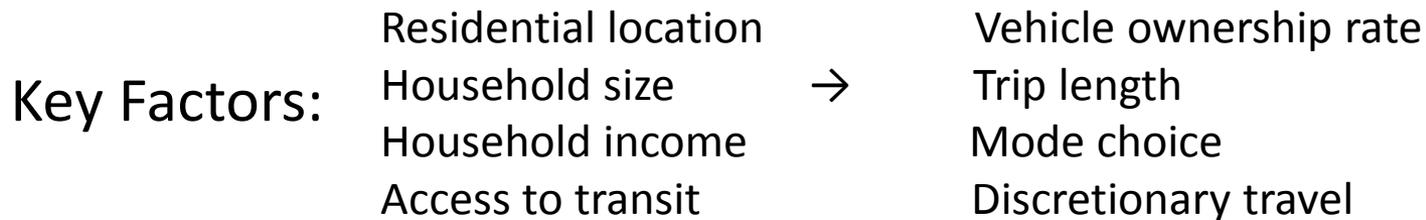
# SF Bay Area Average Household GHG Footprint





# Example: Transportation Emissions

- Motor vehicle travel accounts for the largest slice of GHG footprint



- Need to reduce vehicle emissions, decarbonize transportation sector
- To reduce motor vehicle travel, residential density is *necessary, but not sufficient*. Housing must be well-served by transit & close to shopping & services
- Reducing motor vehicle travel will also reduce upstream emissions from oil refining
- Air travel is also a major contributor to transportation GHG
  - air travel is directly correlated with household income

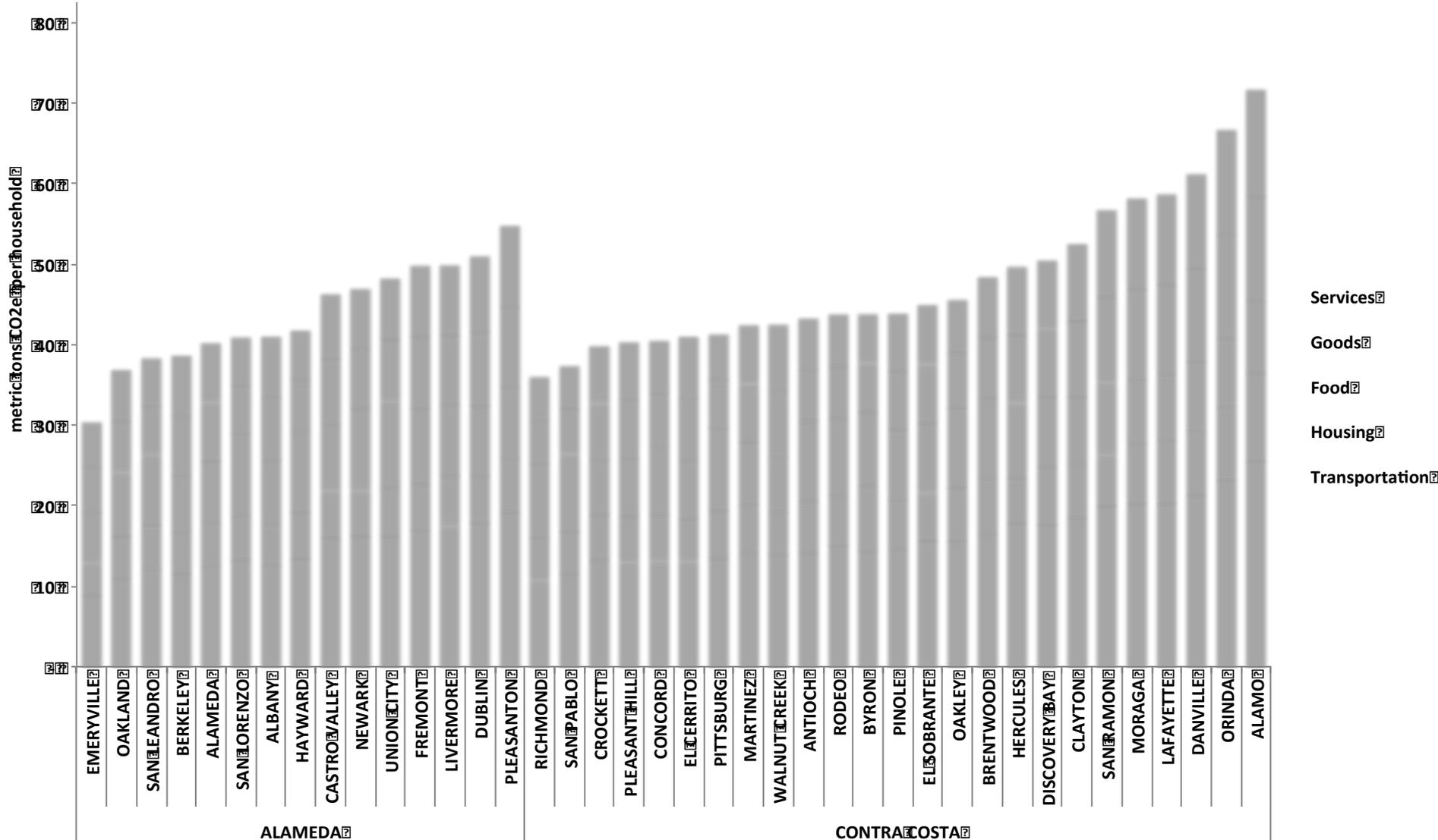




# Bay Area GHG Footprint

- CBEI is ~ 35% larger than production-based inventory
- GHG footprint is generally lower in urban core areas
  - smaller homes, lower vehicle ownership rate, better transit
- Variation between block groups: ratio of seven to one
- Variation between cities: ratio of three to one
- Less variation between counties:
  - average annual GHG footprint ranges from 39 to 49 metric tons per household

# Average Carbon Footprint for Cities in Alameda & Contra Costa Counties





# Key Points

- Consumption-based inventory complements production-based inventory; provides a more complete picture of our GHG impact
- GHG inventory larger when analyzed from consumption perspective
- CBEI can help to inform climate planning at regional & local scale
  - identify most promising opportunities for GHG reduction
- Should consider local variation in size & composition of GHG footprint in designing GHG reduction strategies
- CBEI findings may be most useful for public education

**Questions or  
Comments?**





# CBEI Examples

Entity	Year	Scale / Resolution
Kings County, WA (Seattle)	2008	County-wide
State of Oregon, Dept of Environmental Quality	2010	Statewide
City & County of San Francisco	2011	City-wide
New York City	2013	Zip code

ICLEI GHG Inventory Protocol:  
Appendix I: Consumption-Based Emissions (October 2012)



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Agenda: 5

# California Air Resources Board Draft Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Strategy

Climate Protection Committee  
November 19, 2015

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# Background

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) is preparing a strategy to significantly reduce emissions of “short-lived climate pollutants” (SLCPs):

- One of Governor Brown’s five “Pillars” for achieving 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by 2050
- SB 605 (Lara, 2014) directs ARB to develop a SLCP reduction strategy by the end of 2015
- Coordination with Air District’s own process to develop a strategy addressing SLCPs in the Regional Climate Protection Strategy



# What Are Short-lived Climate Pollutants?

## Characteristics:

- Remain in atmosphere much less time than other climate pollutants like CO<sub>2</sub>
- Have high heat-trapping ability (global warming potential, or GWP)

## Pollutants:

- Methane
- Black carbon
- Fluorinated gases
  - Human-made (no natural sources)
  - Some were introduced as substitutes for ozone-depleting substances



# Why SLCPs are Important

According to the Air Resources Board, significantly reducing emissions of SLCPs by 2030 can:

- Cut global warming in half by 2050
- Reduce warming in the Arctic by two-thirds by 2040
- Slow the rate of sea level rise by 24 – 50%
- Increase the chances of keeping average warming below 2°C to greater than 90% by 2050

*Reducing statewide emissions of SLCPs is one of Governor Brown's five "Pillars" of climate action.*



# The Climate Warming Impact of SLCPs

From ARB's *Draft Short-lived Climate Pollutant Strategy, 2015*:

Table 4: Global Warming Potential for SLCPs

Pollutant	Lifetime (years)	20-year GWP*	100-year GWP
Carbon Dioxide	~100	1	1
Methane	12	72	34
Fluorinated Gases	1.4 – 52	437 – 6,350	124 – 3,500
Black Carbon	Days to weeks	3,200	900

\*The use of a 20-year GWP time horizon better captures the importance of SLCPs and gives a better perspective on the speed at which SLCP emission controls will impact the atmosphere relative to CO<sub>2</sub> emission controls.

# SLCPs in the Bay Area GHG Inventory

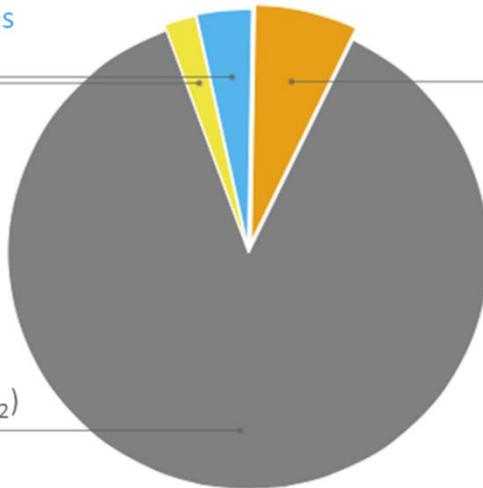
## 100 Year Timeframe

High global warming potential (GWP) gases

3.7%  
Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)  
2.1%

Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)  
6.9%

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)  
87.3%



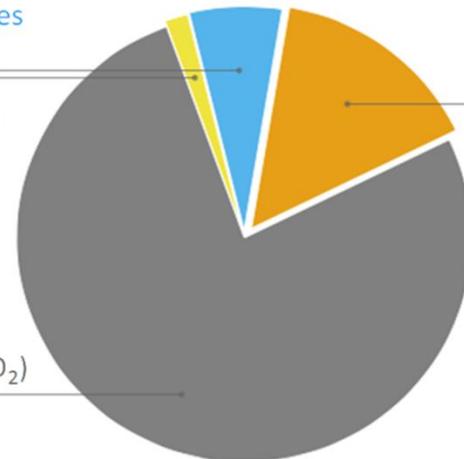
## 20 Year Timeframe

High global warming potential (GWP) gases

6.6%  
Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)  
1.7%

Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>)  
15.1%

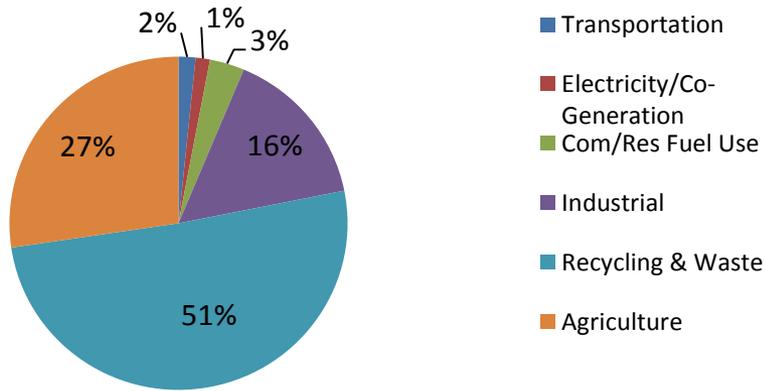
Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)  
76.6%



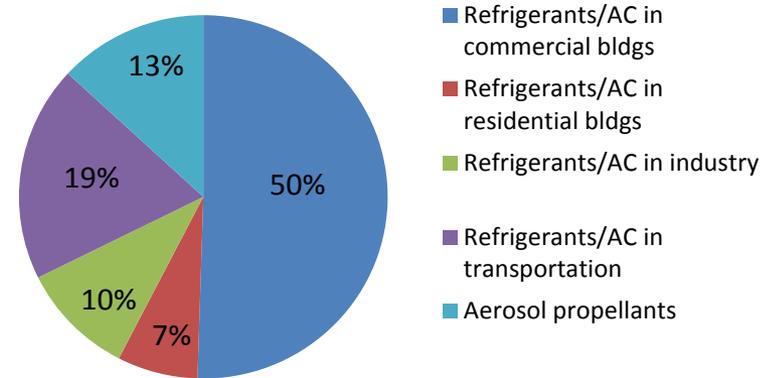


# Sources in the Bay Area

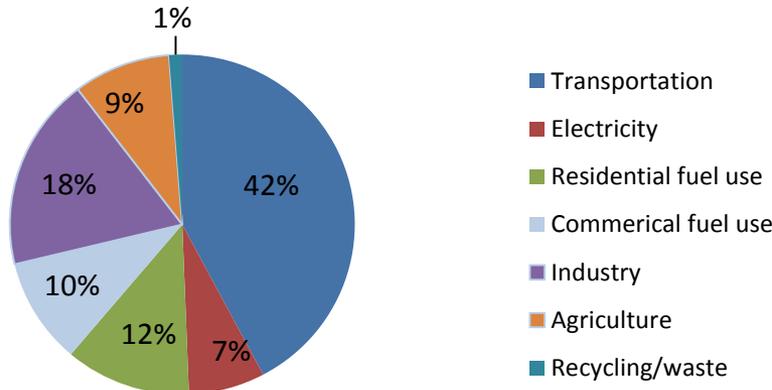
## Bay Area Methane Emissions by Source



## Bay Area HFC Emissions by Source



## Bay Area Black Carbon Emissions by Source





# ARB and Air District Efforts to Date

## Reducing Methane:

- California has strongest standards in the nation for limiting emissions from landfills; Air District assists ARB with enforcement
- Cap-and-Trade offset protocols to encourage methane reduction
- Rule-making underway to limit methane leaks from the natural gas pipeline system and oil & gas wells

## Reducing Black Carbon:

- California human-caused emissions have been reduced 90% since 1960
- Regulations & incentives addressing diesel fuel and engines
- Air District wood smoke rule

## Reducing Fluorinated Gases:

- Current ARB regulations will cut emissions 25% below projected levels by 2020
- Air District collaborating with ARB to enforce regulations on semi-conductor manufacturing and non-motor vehicle air-conditioning



# ARB's SLCP Reduction Targets

## California SLCP Emissions & Proposed Reduction Targets

Pollutant	Baseline	Forecast	Year 2030 Targets	
	Year 2013	Year 2030	Tons	% Reduction
Black Carbon	38	26	19	50%
Methane	118	117	71	40%
F-gases	40	65	24	40%

- In MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e based on 20-year GWP
- “Forecast” includes anticipated reductions from implementation of current regulations

*“The science unequivocally underscores the need to immediately reduce emissions of Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs)...cutting emissions of SLCPs can immediately slow global warming and reduce the impacts of climate change.”*

-- ARB's Draft Short-lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy

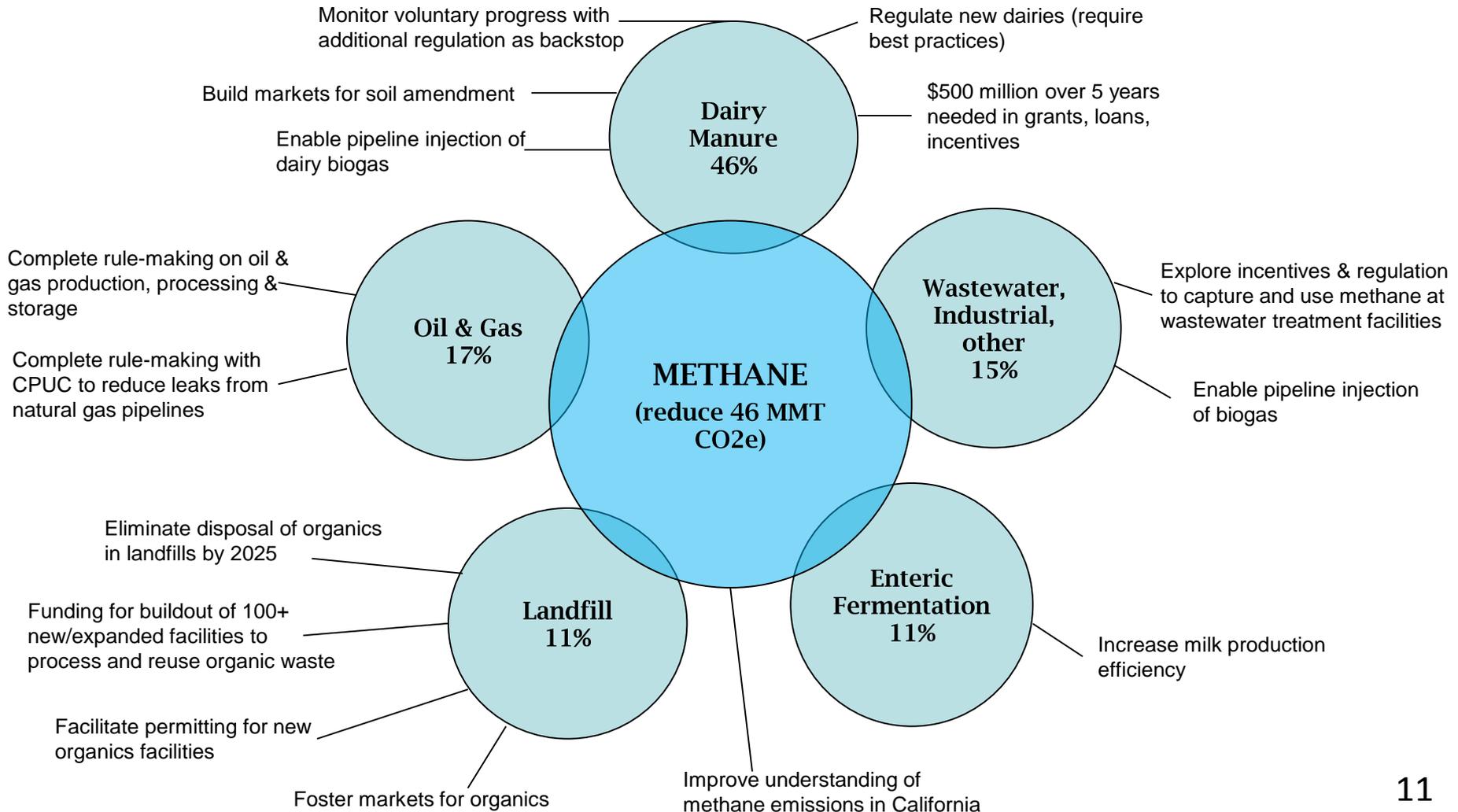


# ARB's Reduction Strategy

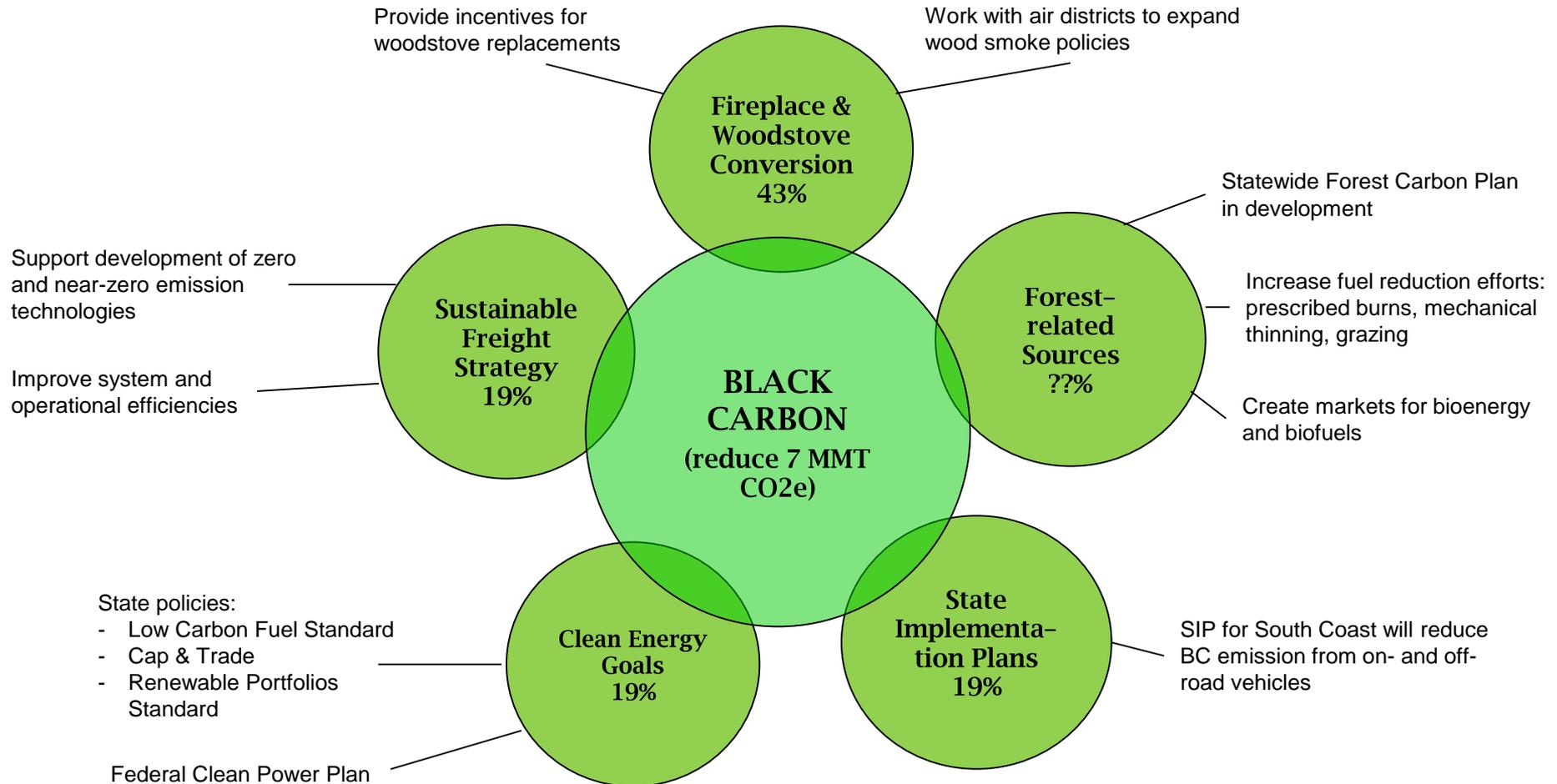
## Driving Principles:

- Prioritize actions with diverse benefits
- Put organic waste to beneficial use
- Identify practical solutions to overcome barriers
- Invest in SLCP emission reductions and communities
- Advance the science of SLCP sources and emissions

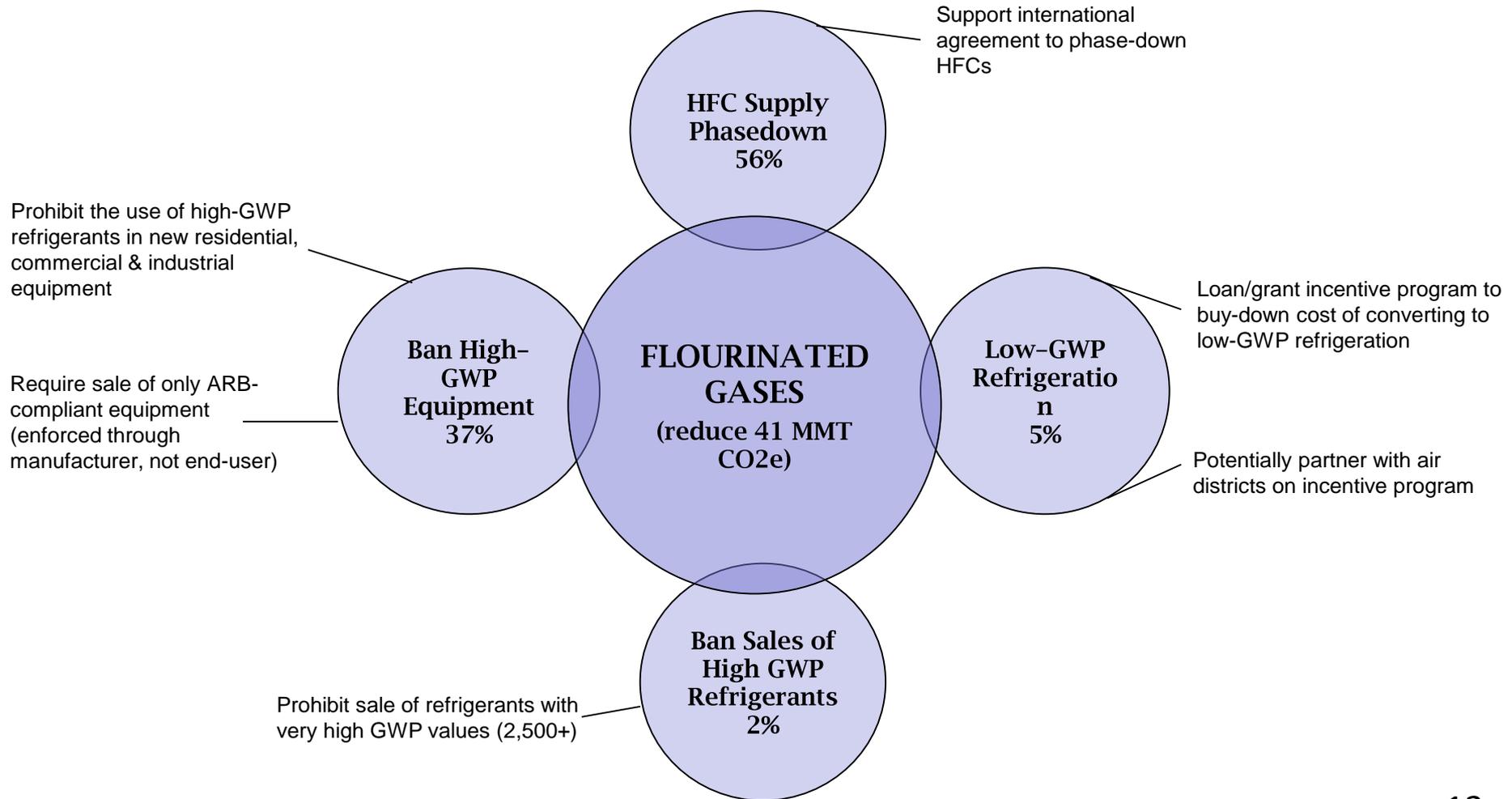
# ARB's Reduction Strategy



# ARB's Reduction Strategy



# ARB's Reduction Strategy





# Collaboration Moving Forward

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“Local Air Districts have a key role to play...”

- Continue collaboration with ARB in rule development and enforcement
- Work with local governments to include measurement, tracking and policies for reducing SLCPs in local climate action plans
- Include specific SLCP reduction measures in the 2016 Clean Air Plan / Regional Climate Protection Strategy
- Explore new source categories, approaches and partnerships for reducing SLCPs in the Bay Area
  - Soil carbon sequestration in rangelands