



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 6:30 PM • City Hall 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

The public may observe/participate in Committee meetings using remote public comment options or attending in person. Committee members shall attend in person unless remote participation is permitted by law. The Committee may take action on any item listed in the agenda.

TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

IN PERSON

Location: 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005, Community Meeting Room

Masks are no longer required but are highly recommended in accordance with California Department of Health Guidelines. To maintain public health and safety, please do not attend in person if you are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 or respiratory illness.

Remote Participation

Members of the public may observe/participate in the Committee Meeting by logging into the Zoom Webinar listed below. Please be advised that if there are technological difficulties, the meeting will nevertheless continue.

The agenda materials may be viewed online at www.brisbaneca.org at least 24 hours prior to a Special Meeting, and at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Meeting. Archived videos can be replayed on the City's website, brisbaneca.org/meetings.

Remote Public Comments

Remote meeting participants may address the Committee members via the Zoom Webinar or Call In Number. Meeting participants are encouraged to submit public comments in writing in advance of the meeting to aetherton@brisbaneca.org. Emails will not be monitored during the meeting.

Join Zoom Webinar: www.brisbaneca.org/osec-zoom

Meeting ID: 976 4295 0160

Call In Number: 669.900.9128

Note: Callers dial *9 to "raise hand" and dial *6 to mute/unmute.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Adrienne Etherton at aetherton@brisbaneca.org or (415) 508-2118. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS****APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- [B.](#) Minutes of February 26, 2025

OLD BUSINESS

- C. Consider process and possible subcommittee for OSEC Baylands EIR review

NEW BUSINESS

- D. Frog habitat update and volunteer events – Paul Bouscal

- [E.](#) Tree Canopy Goal Recommendation

STAFF UPDATES

- [F.](#) 2023 GHG Inventory

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**CALENDAR ITEMS****CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS**

NEXT MEETING: April 23, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

File Attachments for Item:

B. Minutes of February 26, 2025



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

CALL TO ORDER – 6:31 PM

ROLL CALL

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449

Committee members present: Armstrong, Ebel, Rogers, Salmon, Walker. Becker is absent for today’s meeting. Ebel arrived at 6:33pm.

Staff members present: Sustainability Manager, Etherton; Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser; Sustainability Fellow, De La Cruz

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Rogers moved to adopt the agenda and Walker seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – none. Armstrong introduced herself as the newest member of the committee. Salmon mentioned that the Declarations of Restrictions have been recorded against the deeds for the city owned properties in the Priority Preservation Area of the Brisbane Acres.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of January 29, 2025 – Rogers motioned to approve the minutes and Walker seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously. Armstrong abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

- B. Consider process and possible subcommittee for OSEC Baylands EIR review
- Etherton would like to make assignments for review of the different chapters of the DEIR ahead of its release. Individual and group assignments were made and updated, except for a few that will be assigned and revisited at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

- C. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
- Salmon expressed interest in being Chair of the Committee. Ebel nominated Salmon, Rogers seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously. Salmon nominated Walker as Vice Chair, Rogers seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

STAFF UPDATES

Etherton:

- Etherton noted the pool contract for electrification was approved at the council meeting last Thursday, and a site visit with PG&E is scheduled for next week
- The Dark Sky ordinance explainer is on the cover of this month's STAR. We are working on a case study of lighting examples. The Dark Sky website has been updated and includes staff contacts for questions.
- Etherton noted the City is starting facility reviews of the city's buildings, particularly for Dark Sky compliance but also considering other energy upgrades eligible for utility incentives, working through the PG&E GK12 program to minimize costs.
- The solar project for the library is expected to start construction in the coming weeks.
- Updated Committee on SB1383 recordkeeping project with De La Cruz, and noted an informal CalRecycle review of SB1383 records this week.
- Mentioned meeting with a representative from Heirloom (carbon sequestration company) and noted that they are interested in hosting a tour of the facility.
- Noted reaching out to relevant staff regarding the MTC/ABAG PCA grant, and it is likely that it will not be available until July or August.
- Followed up on a prior meeting's request for information on EV charging usage, presented website for current statistics on user data throughout the City.

De La Cruz:

- Provided updates on BBEP. Noted that one Notice of Violation was sent out and the rest of the buildings (10 with BDI and two others outstanding) are awaiting audits. Also noted working with TouchstoneIQ on Beyond modules being integrated, and our goal of getting the 2025 benchmarking reporting link prepared and launched next week.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND REORGANIZATION

- Events (Becker, Salmon) – Salmon updated on the success of the February Habitat event, thank you to partners who sponsored the event. Next event will be Earth Day
- Education and Outreach (Armstrong, Rogers, Walker) – Etherton noted another display will be due soon at the library. Armstrong was added to the Subcommittee
- Climate Action Planning (Ebel, Walker) – Walker noted the group met to discuss funding options and he is following up with community members involved in the 1% for the Arts fee development which will be discussed further at the next meeting
- *Open Space Plan Update (Nunan, Rogers, Salmon) – Salmon noted the deeds have been filed for properties to remain open space. Next steps will be to have Council formally designate the areas as Open Space. City owns 48 of the parcels.
- *Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Nunan, Rogers, Salmon) – Kinser noted a potential upcoming volunteer day with Paul Bouscal
- *Tree Issues (Ebel, Rogers, **Salmon**) – Salmon noted she is the new subcommittee lead, and mentioned a need to integrate PlanIT Geo data to better understand canopy. Members are each taking on a separate focus: city tree canopy goals (Rogers), refining gaps in tree ordinance (Ebel), and the formation of a volunteer adjunct group to help

with training on maintaining trees on private property (Salmon). Ebel mentioned the need to update the approved tree list for the City. Rogers suggested including trees in a library display.

- Baylands Specific Plan subcommittees – no updates
- *Liaisons to Council – Salmon and Walker elected Chair and Vice Chair
- *Lipman Science Fair (Walker, Ebel) – Rogers and Walker presented the winners of the OSEC awards and noted the plethora of environmental projects this year
- PCA Grant – Ebel would like to be removed. Will decide on new members at a future meeting

CALENDAR ITEMS – Etherton went over upcoming events as currently scheduled

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS – reminded public that volunteers are welcome to join programs and events at MountainWatch.org

NEXT MEETING: March 26, 2025

ADJOURN – 8:01 PM

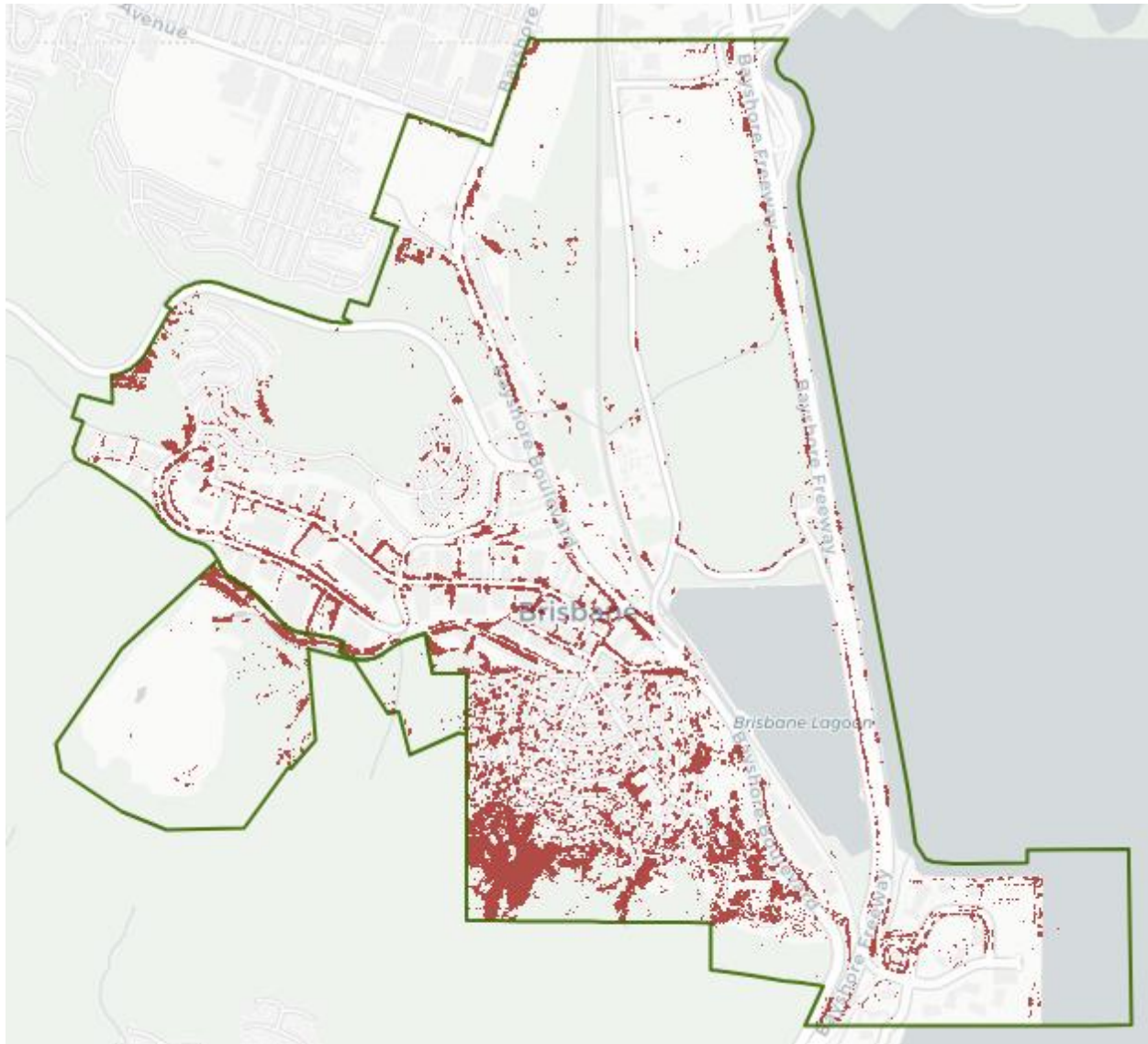
File Attachments for Item:

E. Tree Canopy Goal Recommendation

Citywide Tree Canopy

PlanIT Geo's Canopy services utilize satellite data to approximate tree cover and show the differences between 2010 and 2022. The data is available at pg-cloud.com/BrisbaneCA/ until August 2025, after which the City must renew the license at the current cost of \$5,750/year.

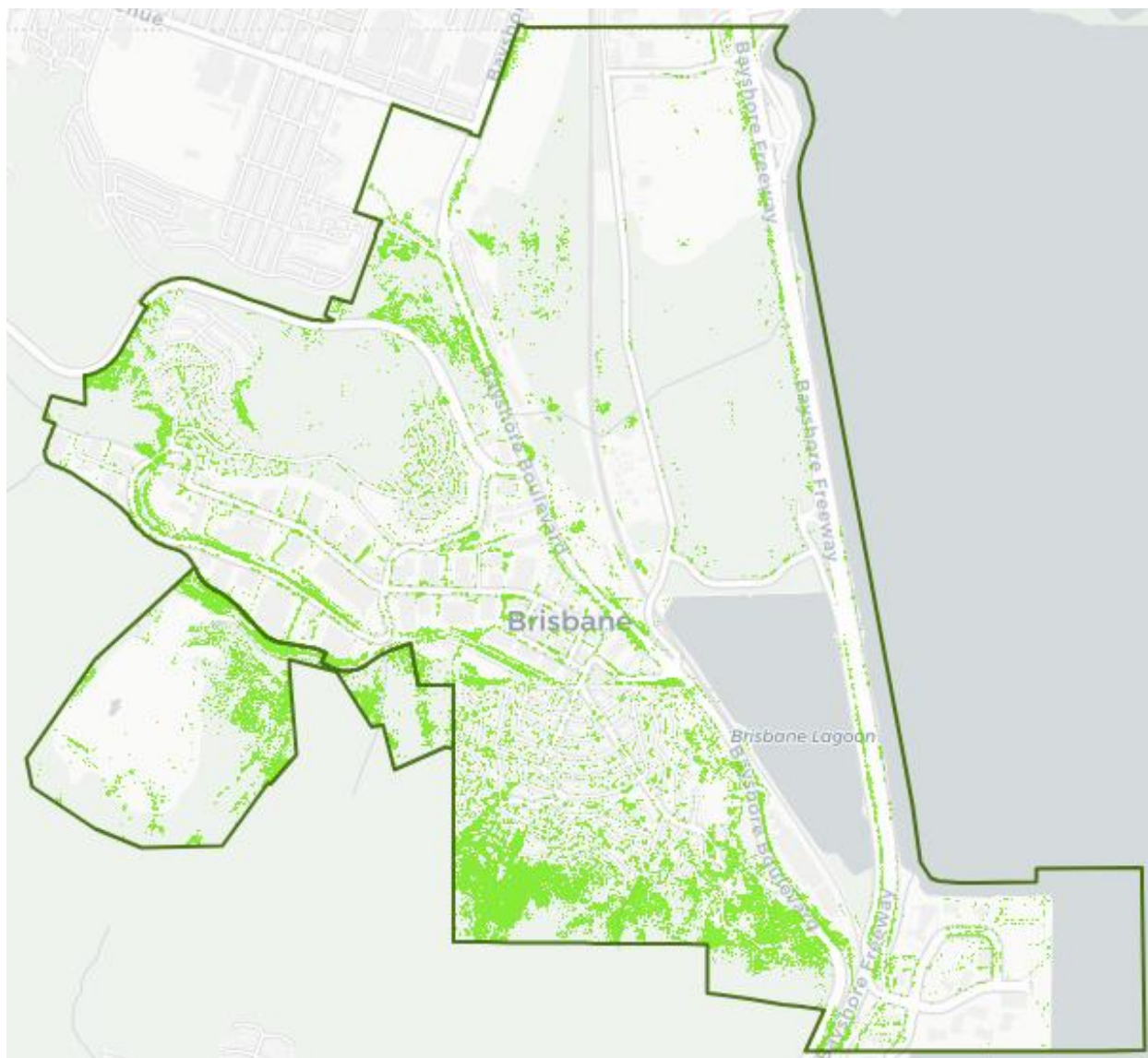
2010 Tree Canopy



The average tree canopy across the jurisdiction in 2010 was 9%.

Tree canopy percentages by census block were incorporated into the Brisbane Tree HubSite and range from 0 (Lagoon) or 2% (Baylands) to 70% in an area of central Brisbane's upper streets.

2022 Tree Canopy



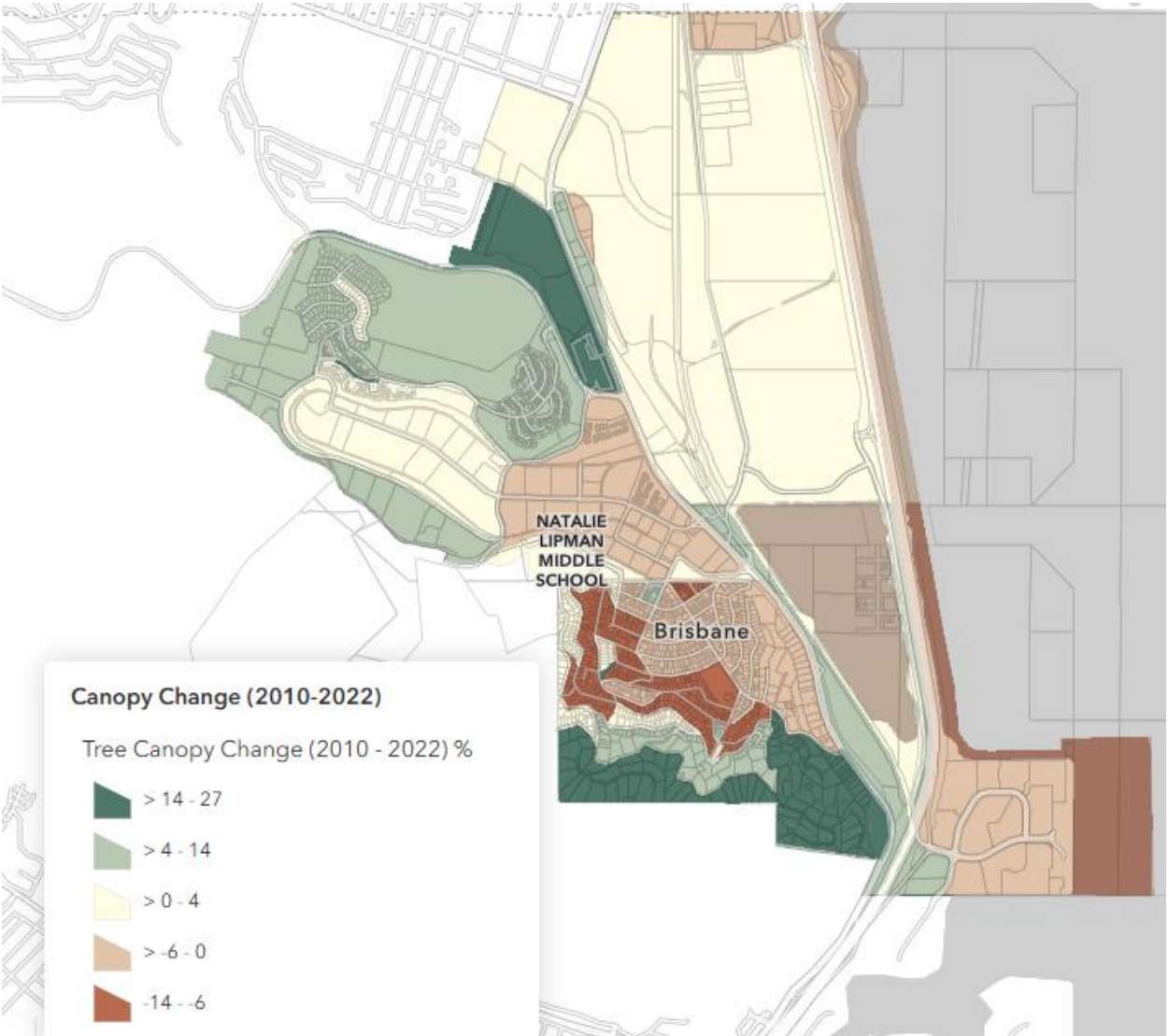
The average tree canopy across the jurisdiction in 2022 was 13%.

Again the tree canopy percentages by census block, available in both PlanIT Geo and the Brisbane Tree HubSite, range from 0 (Lagoon) or 2% (Baylands) to 60% in the uppermost reaches of Central Brisbane.

2010-22 Tree Canopy Change

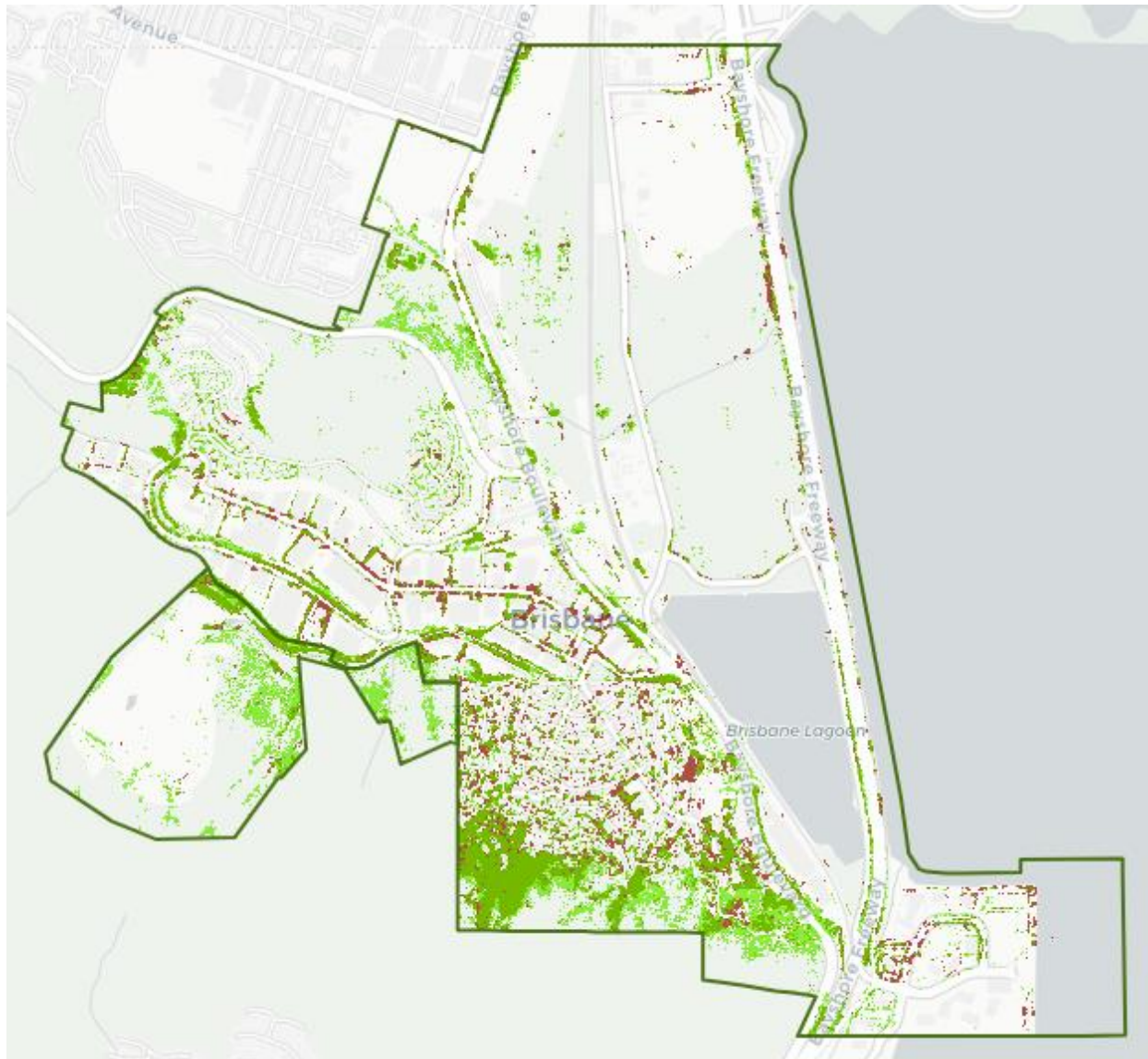
Overall, Brisbane’s tree canopy grew 3% from 2010 to 2022.

However, the average masks significant differences by geographic area. Some census blocks saw their canopy increase up to 20% while other areas saw a loss of up to 13% tree coverage.



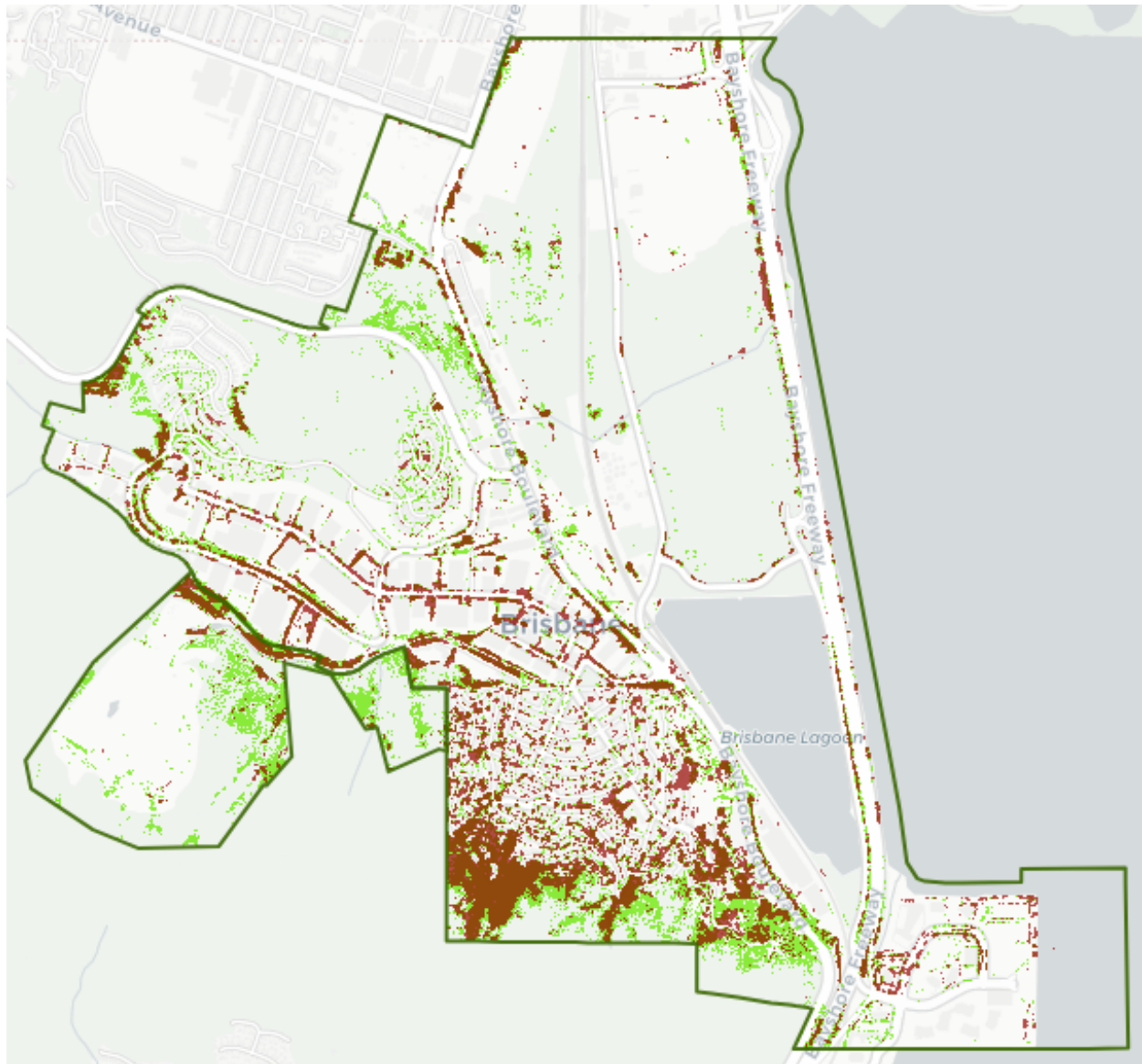
Canopy Loss

Layering the two years of satellite imagery in PlanIT Geo can show areas with tree growth or loss. In this first image, 2022 (green) is layered over the 2010 data (red). **Where red is visible trees have been lost.**



Canopy Gain

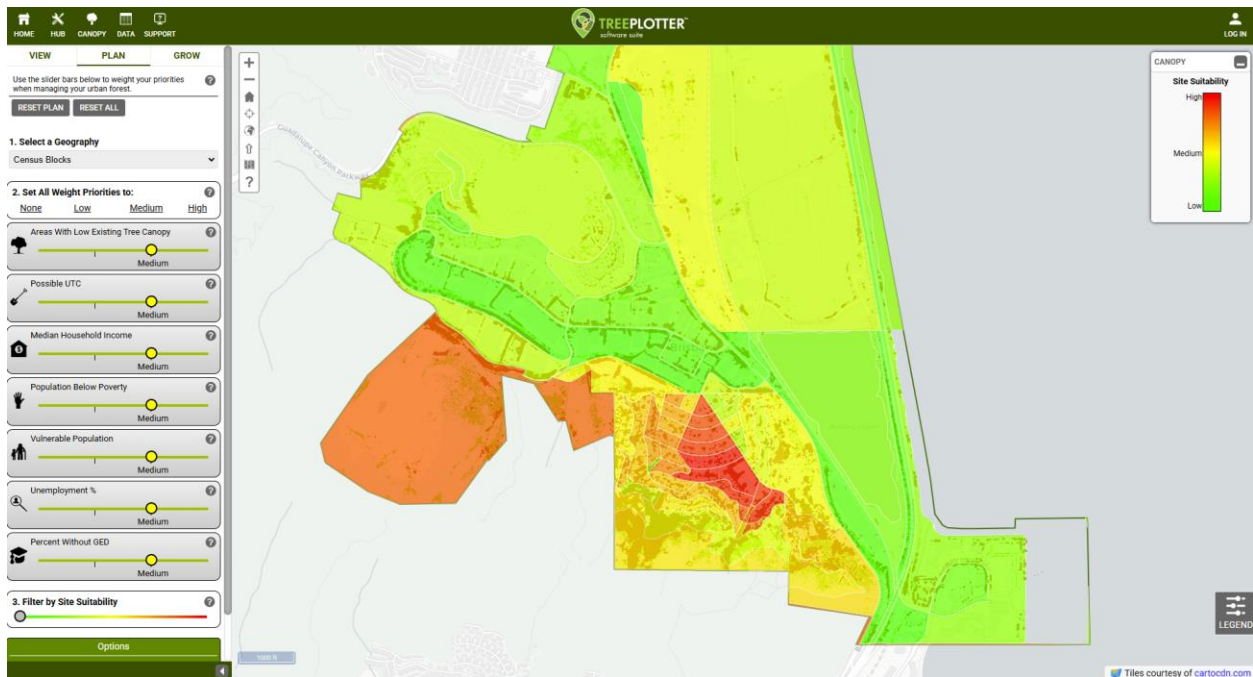
Conversely, in the following image 2010 (red) is layered over 2022 (green). **Here the visible green areas are where tree canopy has increased.**



Planning and Growth

PlanIT Geo's Canopy data also incorporates social and economic data, allowing for tree planting efforts that prioritize planting in areas with low existing tree canopy, or in areas with low-income or vulnerable populations.

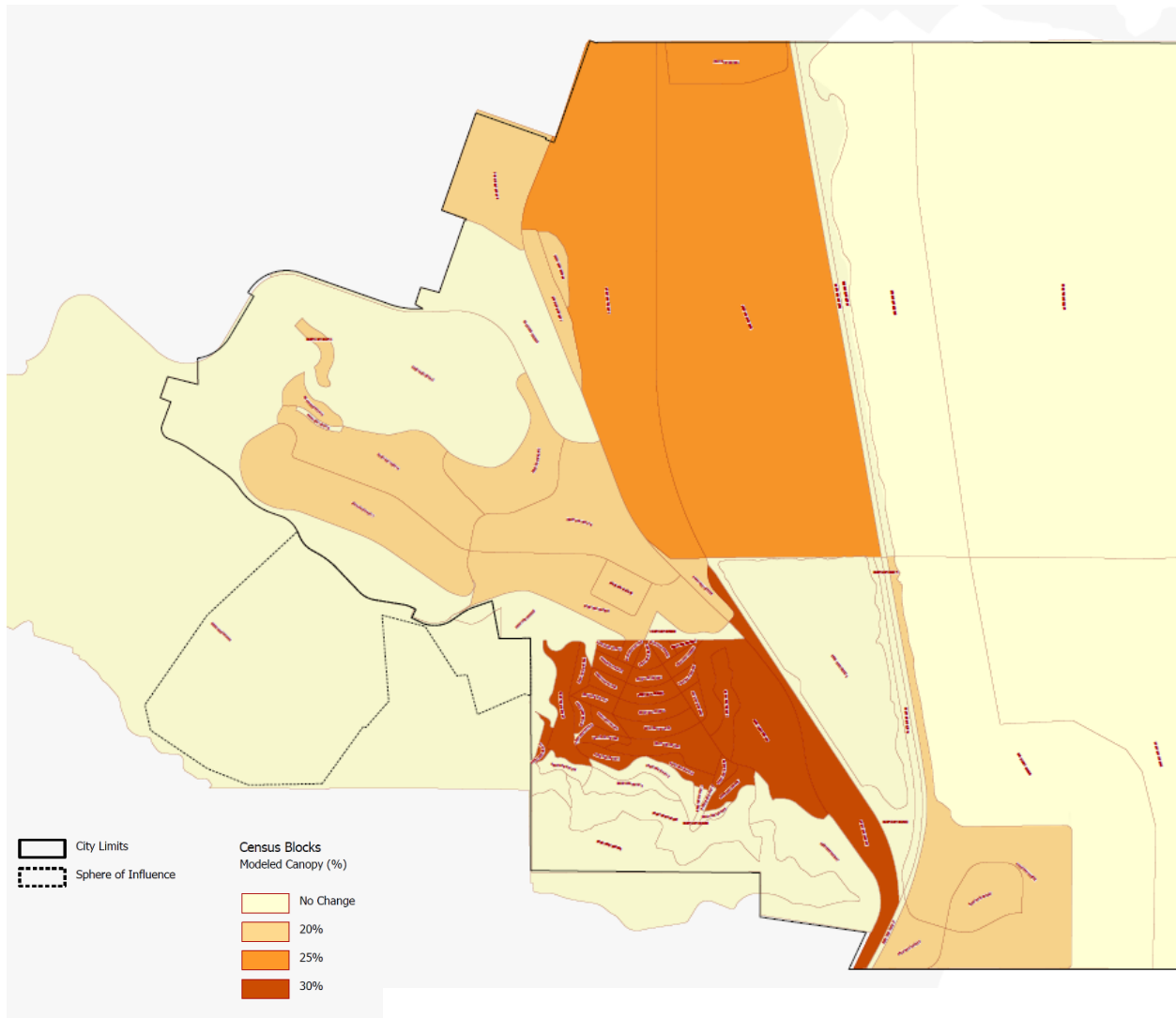
The following screenshot shows the available prioritization criteria (left side) and results with all criteria equally weighted to medium priority.



PlanIT Geo's Grow tool is designed to help evaluate potential urban tree canopy goals and the number of trees to reach the goal. With just three inputs - canopy %, mortality rate of newly planted trees, and average tree size at maturity - the tool outputs how many trees are needed, what the overall impact is on canopy cover, and the impact on ecosystem service benefits from your urban forest.

2040 Canopy Goal Recommendation

As shown in the map below, areas with existing canopy above 30%, as well as the Lagoon, waterfront, Quarry and Callippe Hill regions were left unaltered (lightest yellow). Other areas of central Brisbane were modeled with a 30% canopy, commercial areas with a 20% canopy, and the Baylands with a 25% canopy. The result is a 23% citywide canopy, or 10% increase over 2022 levels, recommended by 2040.



Reaching this goal would require planting 13,033 trees with an average tree crown diameter of 30 feet and a mortality rate of 5%. Of those trees, 8,813 are in the Baylands, leaving 4,220 trees to be planted across public and private (residential and commercial) sites throughout the rest of the city over 15 years, or around 280 trees per year. The table on page 9 includes scenario details for each census block.

In addition, the tool models Ecosystem Benefits of such an increase in tree canopy, with the results shown below for the scenario described.

Number of Trees to Plant



Plant 13,033 Trees

MODELED ECOSYSTEM BENEFITS

OVERALL

Current	Modeled	Net
		
Overall Monetary Benefit \$44,877	Overall Monetary Benefit \$76,416	Overall Monetary Benefit \$31,539

AIR QUALITY

Current	Modeled	Net
		
Pollutants Removed (lb) 7,119	Pollutants Removed (lb) 12,122	Pollutants Removed (lb) 5,003
Air Quality Monetary Benefit \$37,276	Air Quality Monetary Benefit \$63,472	Air Quality Monetary Benefit \$26,196

CARBON

Current	Modeled	Net
		
Carbon Monetary Benefit \$169	Carbon Monetary Benefit \$287	Carbon Monetary Benefit \$119
Carbon Sequestered (lb) 7,393	Carbon Sequestered (lb) 12,588	Carbon Sequestered (lb) 5,196

STORMWATER

Current	Modeled	Net
		
Stormwater Monetary Benefit \$7,433	Stormwater Monetary Benefit \$12,656	Stormwater Monetary Benefit \$5,224
Runoff Prevention (Gallons) 862,499	Runoff Prevention (Gallons) 1,468,641	Runoff Prevention (Gallons) 606,142

Area Name or ID	Existing Canopy (%)	Modeled Canopy (%)	Net Change Canopy (%)	No. Trees to Reach Goal	Avg Tree Size (ft.)	Mortality Rate (%)	Annual Added Eco-Benefits (\$)
060816001001008	12	30	18	31	30	5	78
060816001004002	10	30	20	62	30	5	158
060816001001003	18	30	12	24	30	5	61
060816001004005	20	30	10	78	30	5	198
060816001004006	16	30	14	19	30	5	48
060816001002004	4	25	21	304	30	5	774
060816001004011	16	30	14	36	30	5	92
060816001005006	3	30	27	35	30	5	88
060816001005003	8	30	22	41	30	5	106
060816001001006	20	30	10	16	30	5	41
060816001005005	12	30	18	96	30	5	244
060816001001005	29	30	1	12	30	5	30
060816001001007	16	30	14	29	30	5	75
060816001001000	13	30	17	23	30	5	59
060816001002006	4	20	16	54	30	5	138
060816001002003	2	25	23	5,947	30	5	15,150
060816001002015	20	20	0	0	30	5	0
060816023002003	29	20	-9	-2	30	5	-5
060816001002016	10	20	10	354	30	5	902
060816001005001	1	30	29	37	30	5	93
060816001002030	16	20	4	122	30	5	311
060816001002025	16	20	4	35	30	5	89
060816001004004	14	30	16	67	30	5	171
060816001001009	11	30	19	38	30	5	96
060816001002014	1	20	19	57	30	5	145
060816001002017	19	20	1	21	30	5	52
060816001001001	8	30	22	26	30	5	65
060816001005004	22	30	8	260	30	5	664
060816001002019	11	20	9	347	30	5	885
060816001004000	10	30	20	29	30	5	75
060816001001015	28	30	2	3	30	5	7
060816001002007	18	20	2	16	30	5	42
060816001001011	25	30	5	14	30	5	36
060816001002020	20	20	0	1	30	5	3
060816001004003	11	30	19	75	30	5	192
060816001001002	9	30	21	45	30	5	115
060816001002012	11	20	9	197	30	5	502
060816001002029	11	20	9	52	30	5	131
060816001002008	4	20	16	422	30	5	1,074
060816001004001	10	30	20	44	30	5	111
060816001005007	16	30	14	22	30	5	57
060816001002005	6	25	19	2,562	30	5	6,526
060816001002027	9	20	11	135	30	5	343
060816001002026	6	20	14	807	30	5	2,056
060816001004007	24	30	6	17	30	5	44
060816001001004	19	30	11	23	30	5	57
060816001002024	15	30	15	386	30	5	985
060816001005002	10	30	20	14	30	5	35

File Attachments for Item:

F. 2023 GHG Inventory

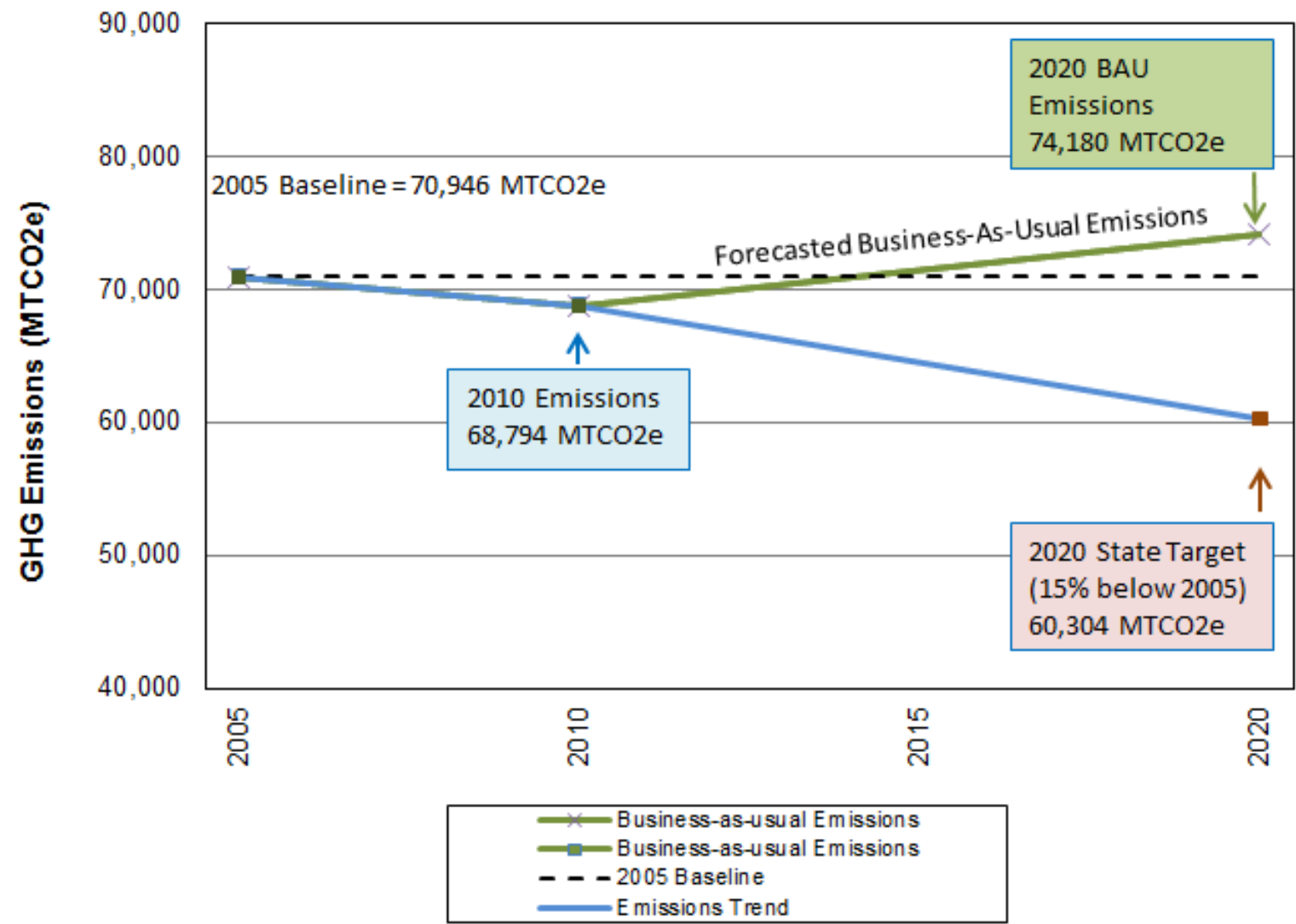
2023 City of Brisbane GHG Emissions Inventories

Data compiled by Rincon Consultants via
San Mateo County RICAPS

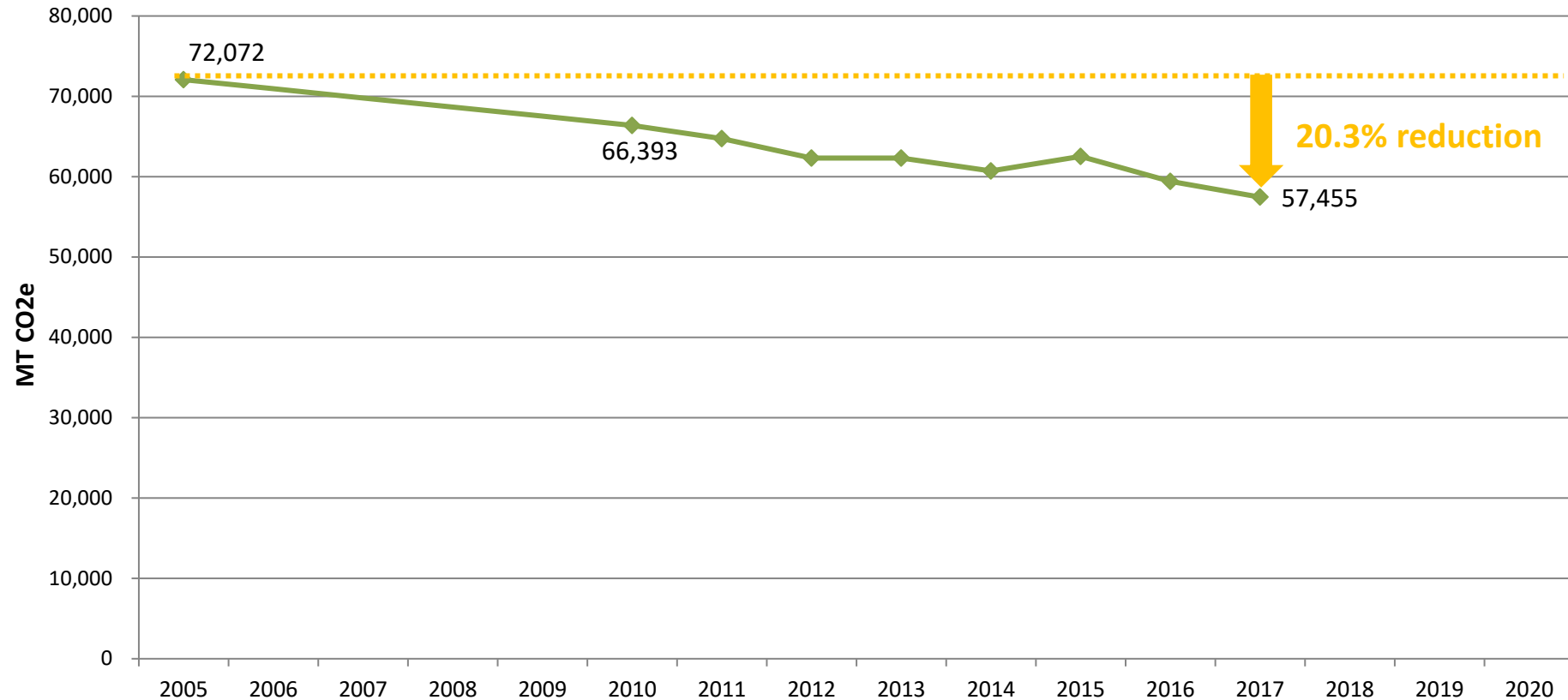
With additional charts by Adrienne Etherton,
Sustainability Manager, City of Brisbane

Brisbane Climate Action Plan

Figure 7. Brisbane GHG Reduction Target (15% below 2005 levels by 2020)



Brisbane GHG Emissions, 2017 Inventory

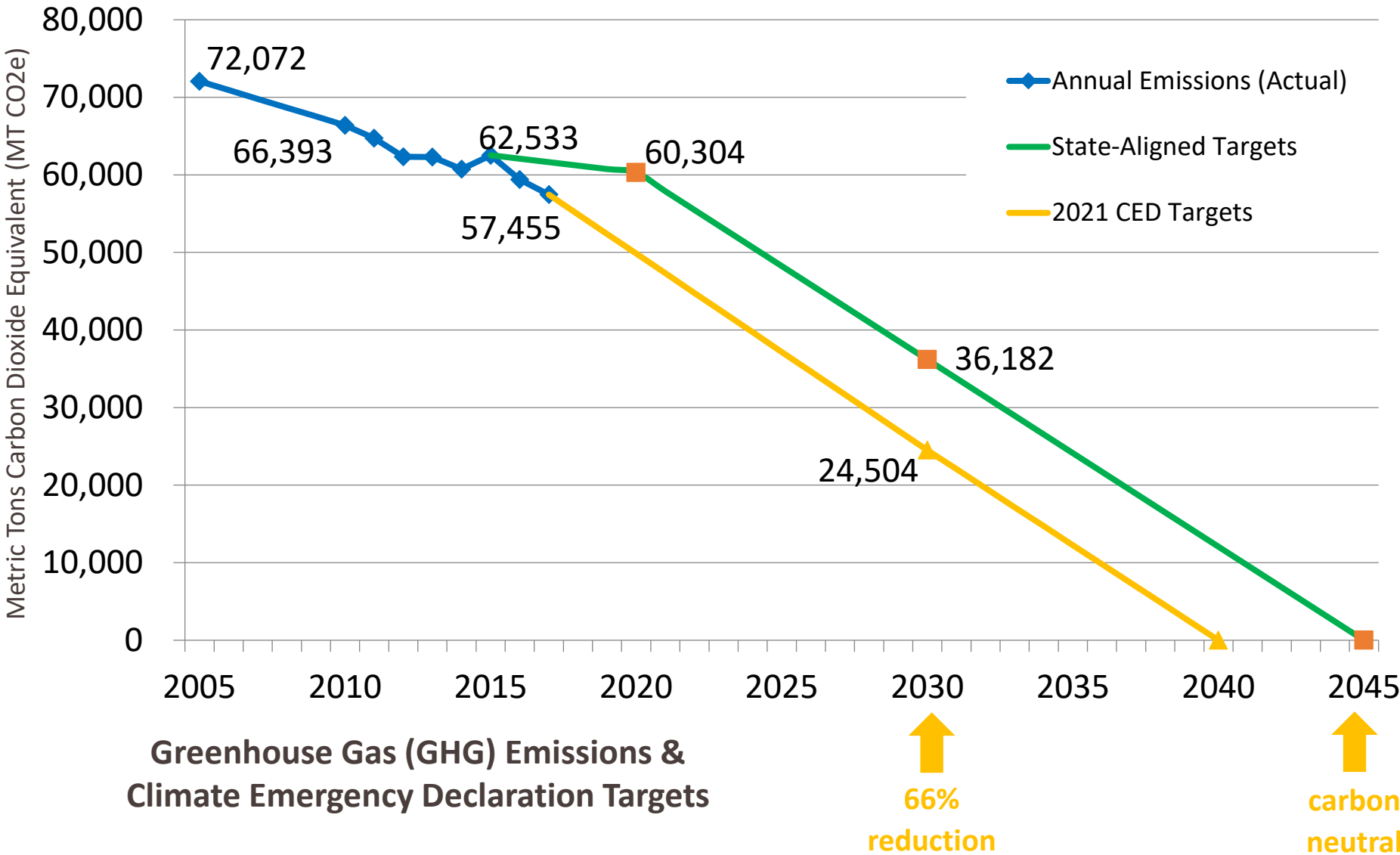


Climate Emergency Declaration

Adopted in July 2021

Established aspirational goals for 2030 & 2040

Presentation of the declaration reported that previous goal had been met, based on 2017 inventory



2019 & 2021 Inventory Changes

- New consultant (Rincon) supporting RICAPS
- Updated standards and methodologies
- New regional transportation model for Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT)
- New sources: upstream energy use – methane gas leakage and electricity transmission losses
- Updated 2005 baseline to match new methodology, but not interim years so lacking comparable data for trendlines

Source	2005 Baseline Emissions (MTCO ₂ e)
Climate Action Plan	70,946
2017 Inventory/Climate Emergency Declaration	72,072
2019 & 2021 Inventories	84,511



**~19%
increase in
baseline**

Brisbane 2023 Community GHG Inventory

Sector	Subsector	2005	2019	2021	2023
Building Energy	Electricity	21,233	3,375	141	354
	Natural Gas	11,413	16,165	18,247	18,183
	Stationary Sources	N/A	117	253	472
On-road Transportation	On-road - Total VMT	38,923	40,480	38,607	37,176
Off-road Equipment	Off-road - All Fuels	4,223	4,820	4,592	4,777
Solid Waste	Landfilled Waste	2,554	2,638	3,432	3,445
	ADC	53	0	0	0
	Landfills	6,111	7,591	7,564	6,688
Wastewater	Wastewater Treatment	N/A	115	117	124
Water	Water Use	N/A	1	15	2
Total		84,511	75,302	72,969	71,222

15.72% reduction

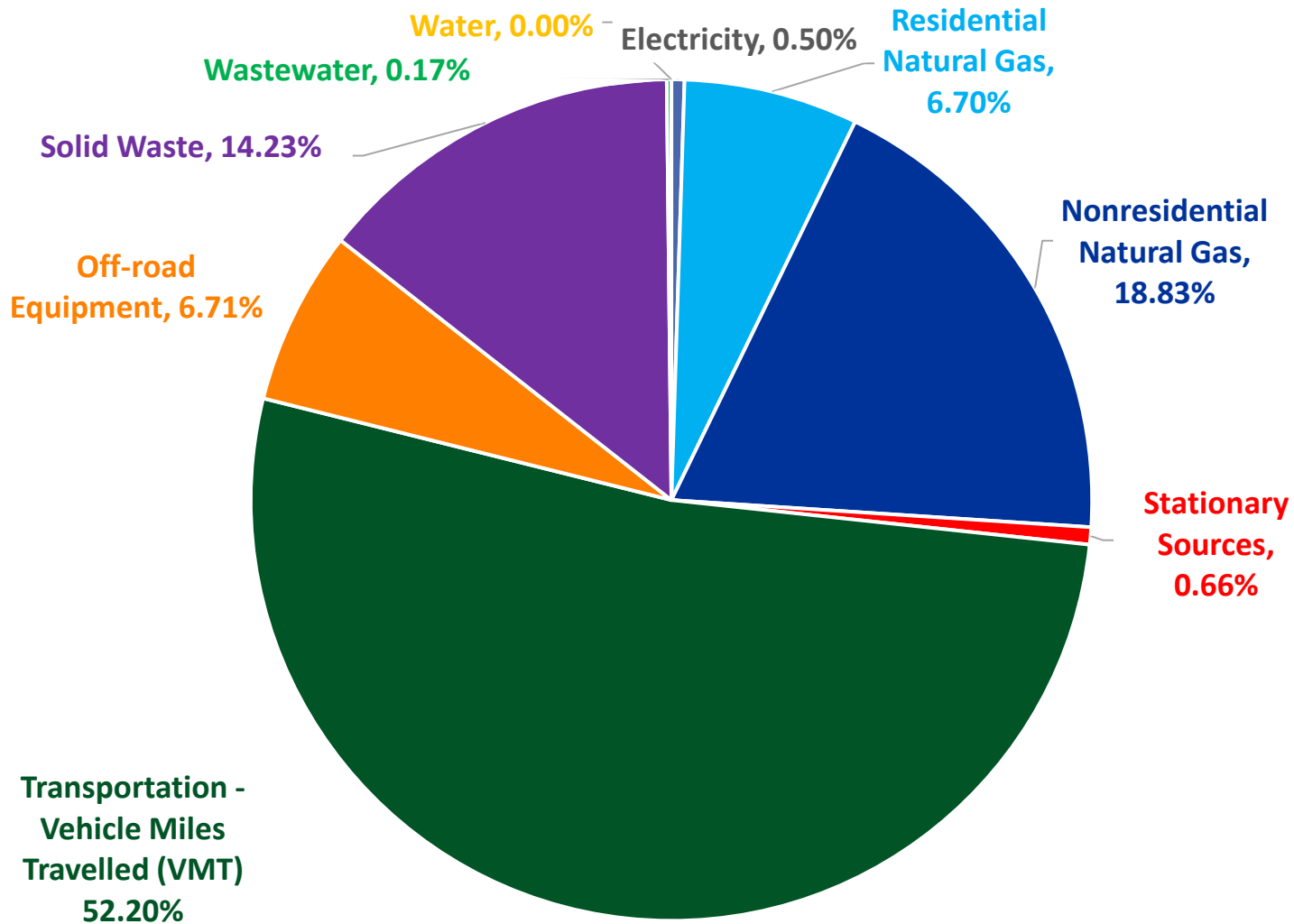


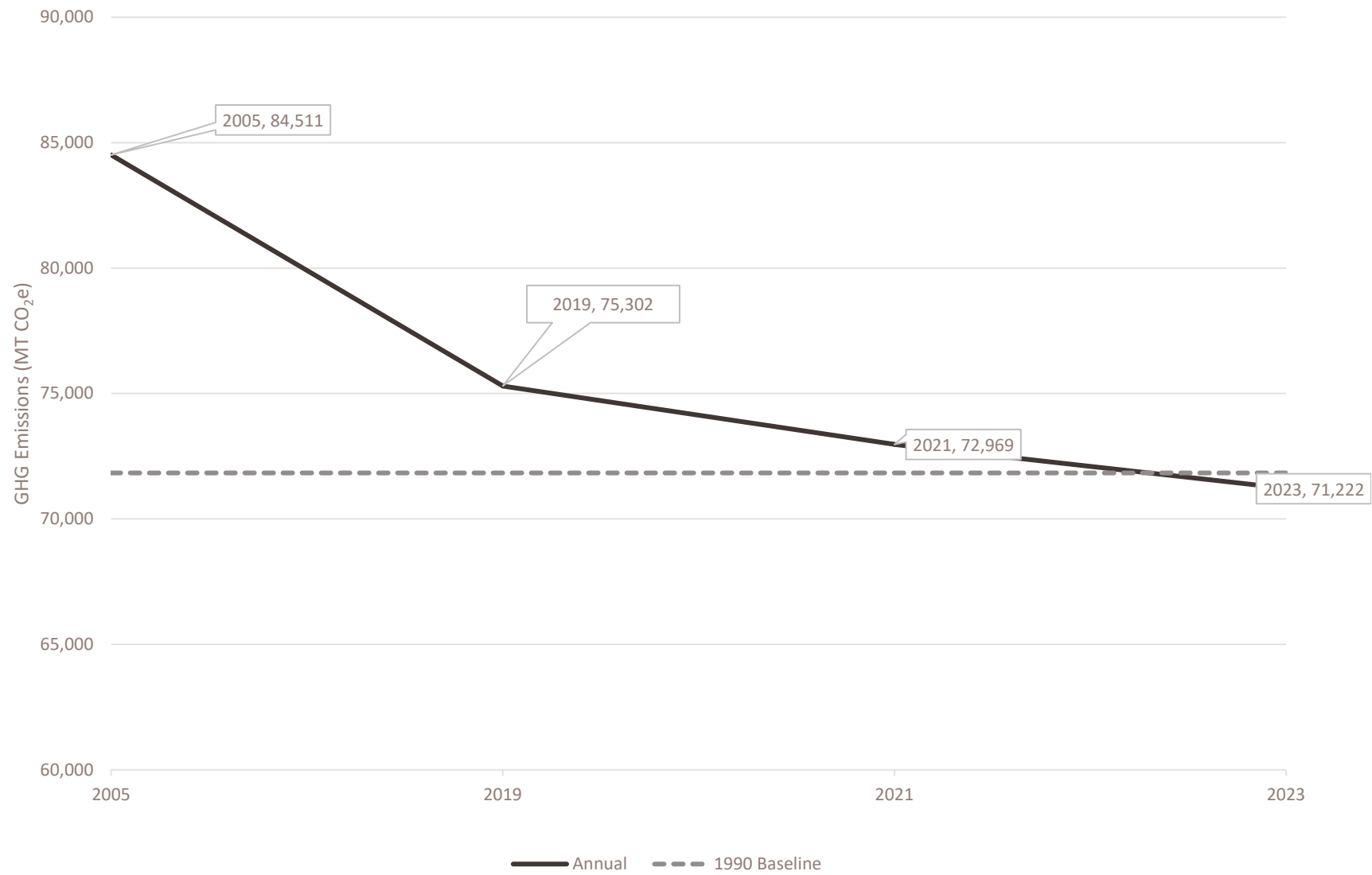
Summary from Emily Saul, Rincon Consultants:

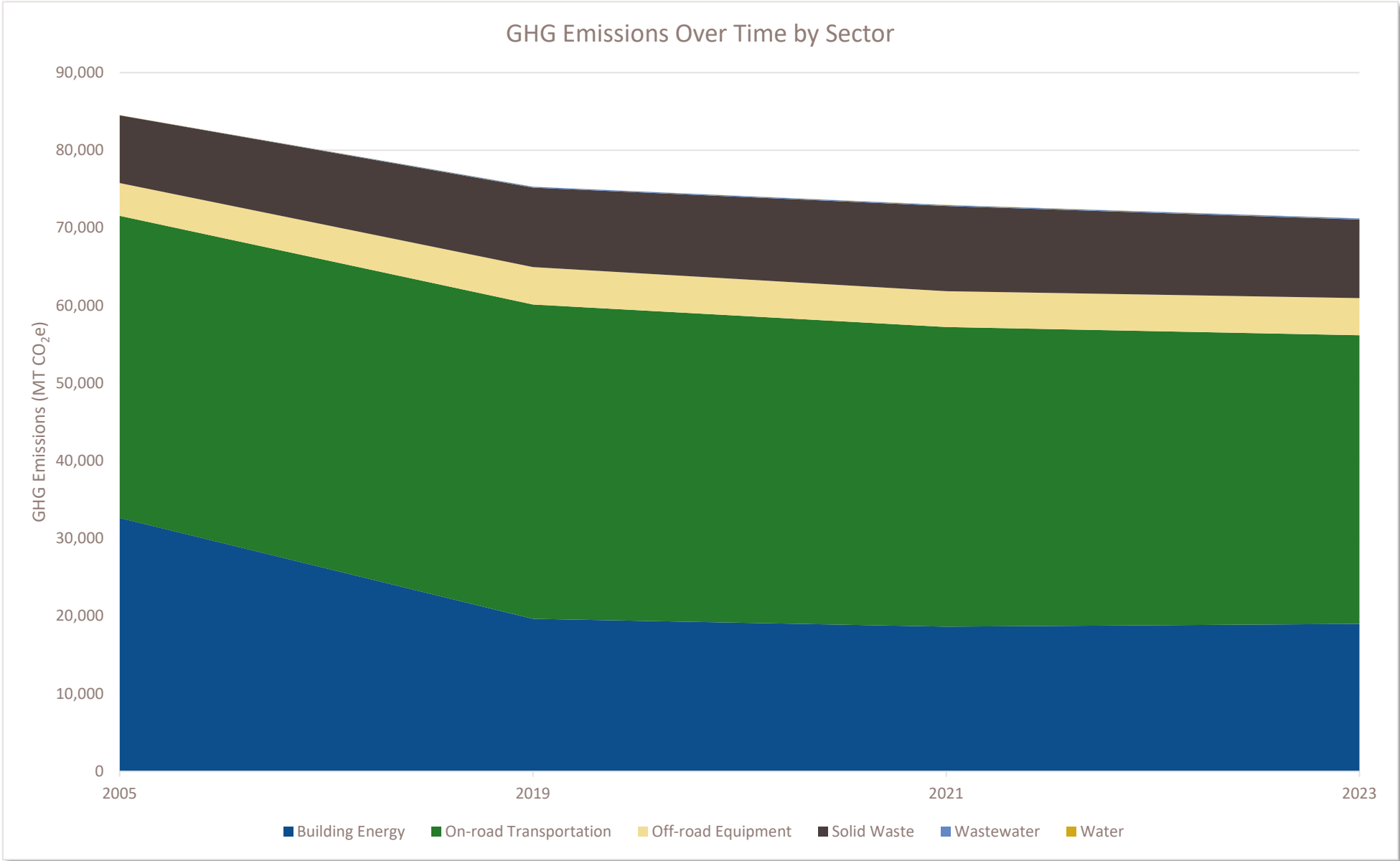
- From 2021 to 2023, total emissions decreased ~2%.
- Largest decrease was on-road transportation emissions primarily due to a decrease in passenger VMT. Passenger VMT decreased about 6% but was offset by an increase of ~9% in Commercial VMT.
- Closed landfill emissions also saw a slight decrease and can be expected to keep decreasing gradually.
- Natural gas saw a slight decrease in residential gas consumption and water saw a slight decrease due to PG&E's lower emission factor.
- 2023 nonresidential gas is unknown; 2021 data is used instead.
- All other sectors saw slight increases.



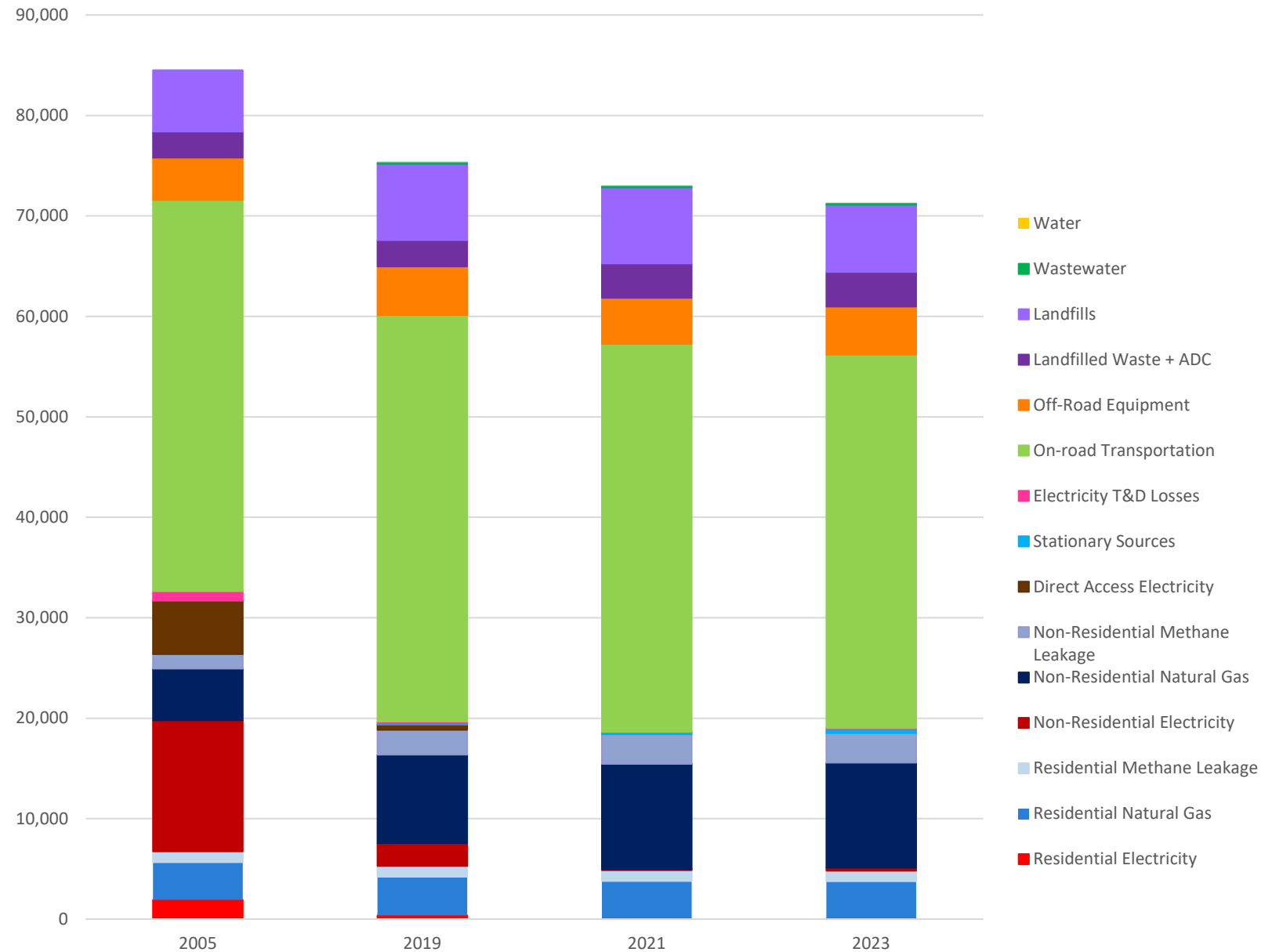
Brisbane 2023 Community GHG Inventory

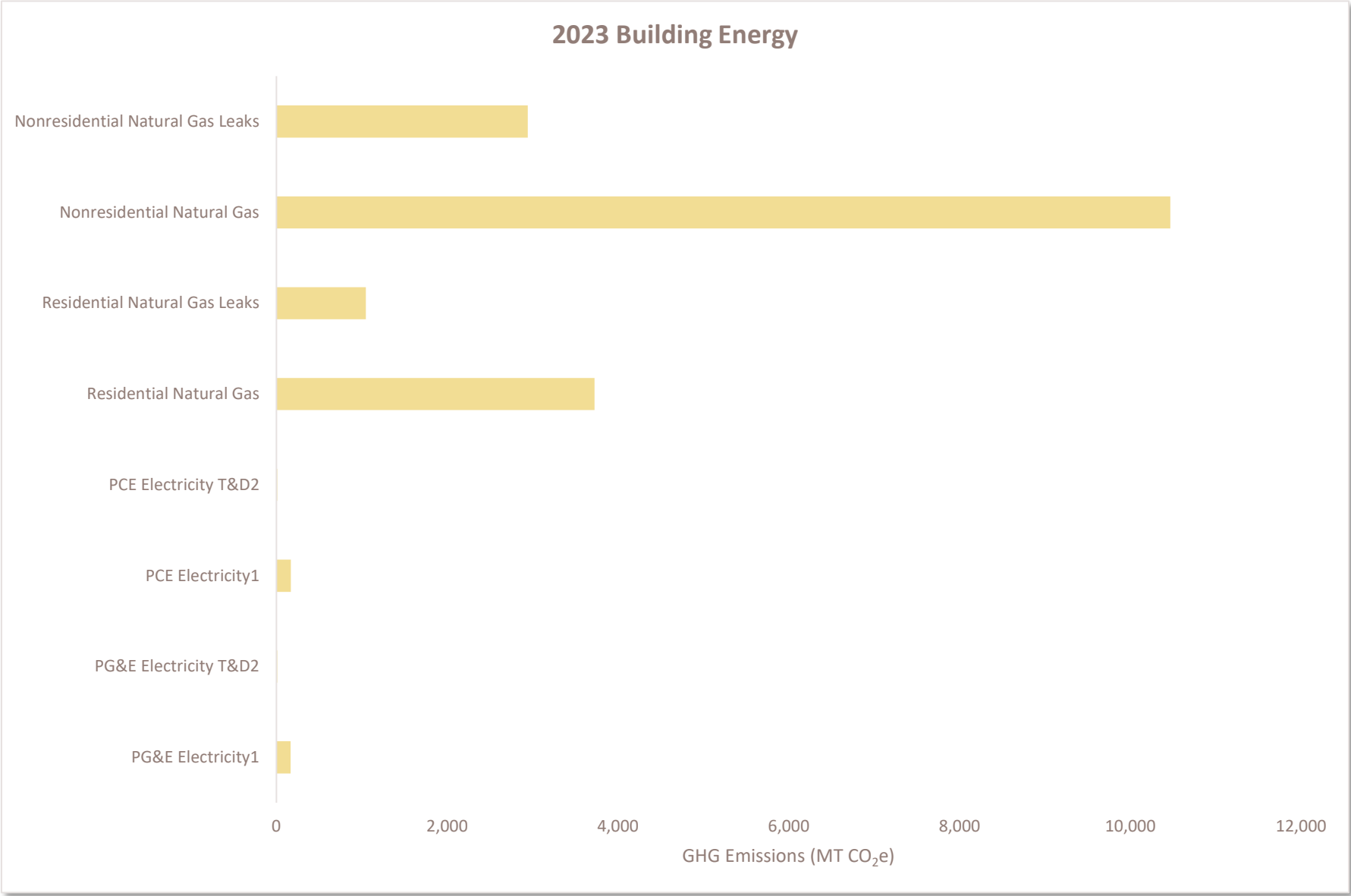


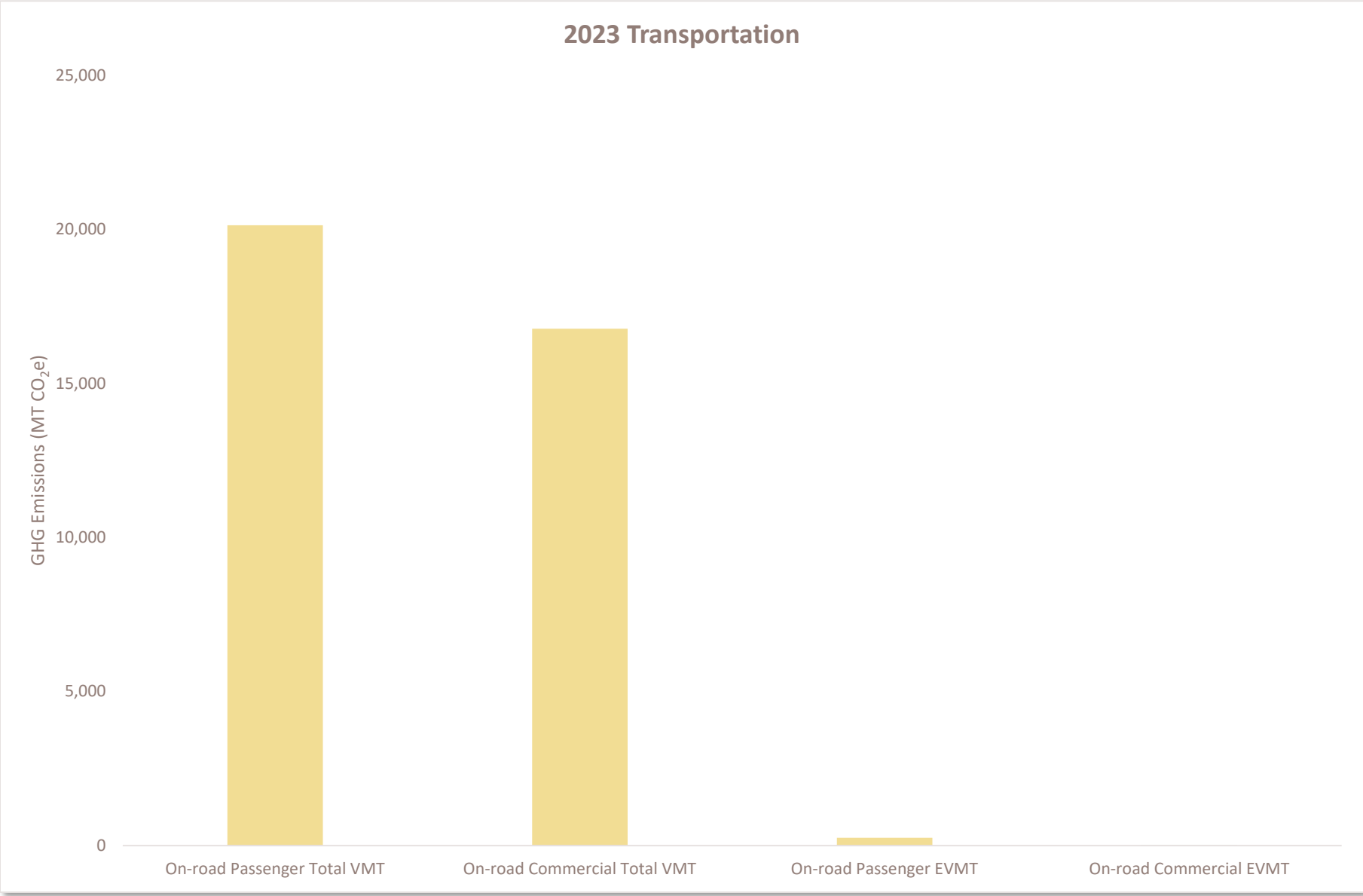




F. Emissions Sources Over Time







Brisbane GHG Emissions and Targets

