

# 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update

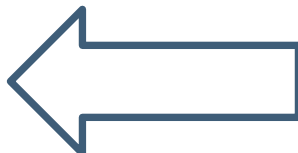


**Sustainability | July 11, 2017**

# Tonight's Agenda

- Update process overview
- Sustainability in the Comprehensive Plan
- Sustainability in the Update
- Your turn to weigh in
- Next steps

# The Update Process

1. Due Diligence
2. Outreach and In-reach
3. White Paper on proposed revisions
4. Public Comment
5. Plan Drafting
6. Public Comment 
7. Final Review & Adoption



# Where we are now

- Public Comment
  - 5 public meetings on specific topics
    - Wednesday, June 7: Resilience
    - Wednesday, June 14: Housing
    - Tuesday, June 20: Development Transitions
    - Tuesday, June 27: Transportation
    - Tuesday, July 11: Sustainability
- Visit the web page and comment
  - Go to [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov) and search 'Comprehensive Plan Update'



# 10 Significant Changes

1. Graphic redesign
2. Key Policies
3. Height & Transitions
4. Transit Plan
5. Resiliency
6. Affordable Housing
7. Water Supply
8. Local Food Systems
9. Downtown Element
10. Area Plans





The success of cities in the 21st century will, to a significant degree, be decided by their ability to adapt to challenges presented by climate change and to become more sustainable and resilient. This Environmental Protection Element contains policies and actions required for the City of Raleigh to meet these and other challenges. In the process, the City will be improving the long-term health of local residents, regional natural resources, and ecological systems. By taking these actions, Raleigh will serve as a key player in the national reversal of sprawling development patterns and environmentally degrading development practices. Ultimately, the goal is to one day become carbon neutral while protecting natural resource assets and growing sustainably.

The City of Raleigh has a number of programs and initiatives designed to protect and enhance environmental and natural resources. These include its broad array of recycling services, the greening of its automobile fleet, the integration of green building and infrastructure programs, progress in reusing and conserving water, and work in managing stormwater as an integral asset. Adoption and implementation of this Element presents the City with an opportunity to surpass these efforts and to continue to move toward more comprehensive solutions to environmental challenges.

## Raleigh's Climate Protection Commitment

Raleigh has joined forces with more than a thousand cities across the country by signing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement to strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution. The following actions from the Climate Protection Agreement shape the land use, transportation, and natural resource preservation policies in the Plan:

- *Adopt and enforce land use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities.*
- *Promote transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, incentives for carpooling, and public transit.*
- *Increase the use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, advocating for the development of renewable energy resources, recovering landfill methane for energy production, and supporting the use of waste-to-energy technology.*
- *Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb carbon dioxide.*
- *Make energy efficiency a priority through building code improvements and retrofitting City facilities with energy efficient lighting to conserve energy.*
- *Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program or similar system.*



Some of the key issues this Element aims to address through its policies include:

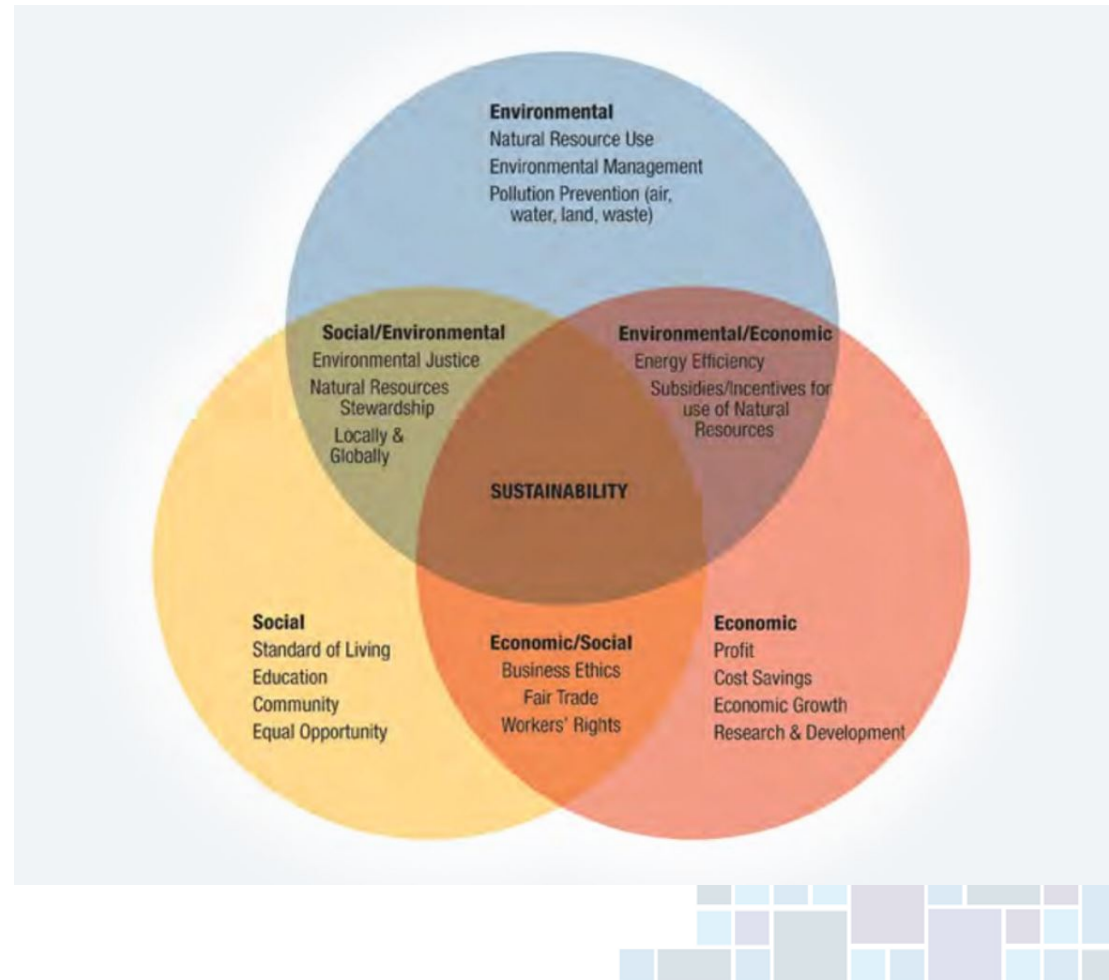
- *The localized effects of climate change, including increased risk of droughts and flooding, and a fluctuating supply source of drinking water;*
- *The fight against climate change at the local level will require coordinated responses involving City operations as well as land use and transportation policy;*
- *The Neuse River is a valuable natural water resource that is impaired by excess concentrations of the nutrients nitrogen and phosphorous. As the capital city, located near the headwaters of the Neuse River Basin, Raleigh must help lead and champion measures to protect this state resource;*
- *The ongoing efforts to improve air quality must address the region's high degree of reliance on the automobile, loss of tree coverage, and loss of undeveloped land;*
- *The conservation of urban, suburban, and native forests will be important to Raleigh's environment and quality of life; and*
- *There is a need for greater sensitivity for aquatic and wildlife and natural habitat protection. Raleigh has the opportunity to become a national leader in sustainable environmental policy that helps protect and improve quality of life at the local and regional level.*

Further information associated with these topics, and how they relate to Raleigh, can be found in the Environmental Resources section of the City of Raleigh Community Inventory Report.



# Sustainability

- Environmental Stewardship
- Economic Strength
- Social Integrity





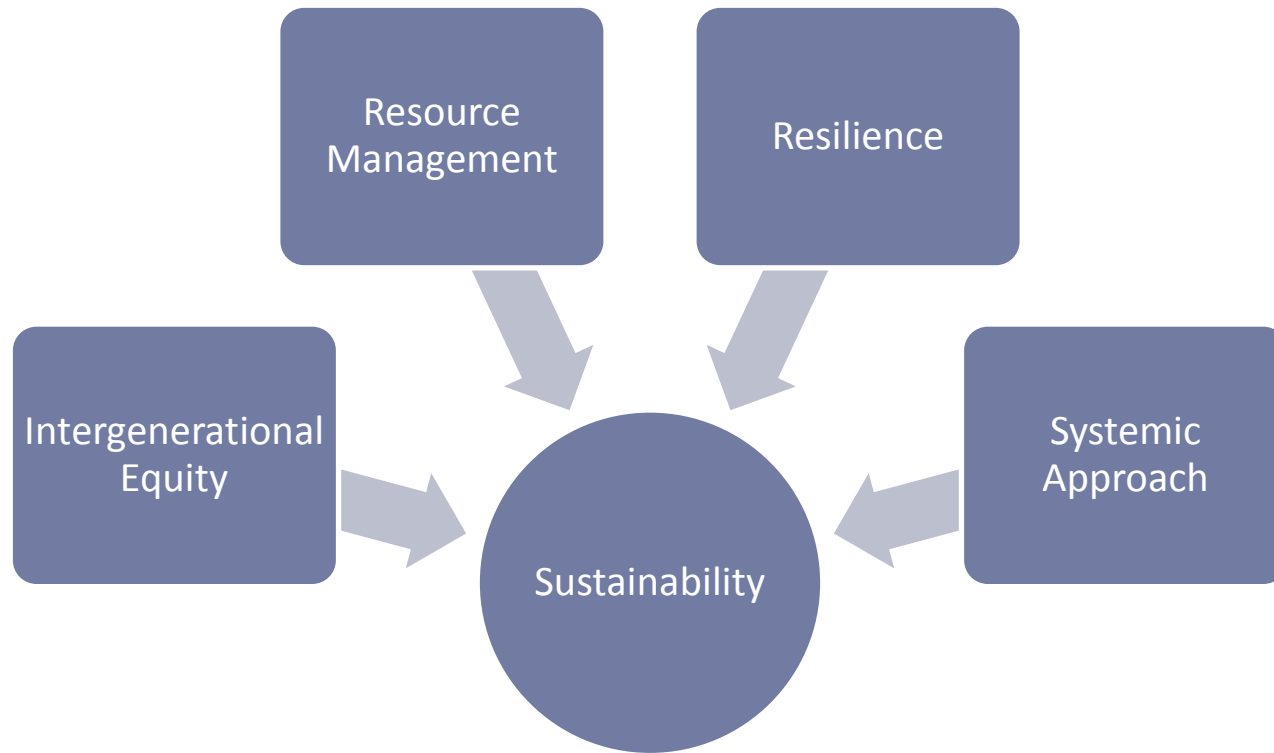
# Sustainability

“[Meeting] the needs of **current and future generations** without compromising the **ecosystems** upon which they depend by **balancing** social, economic, and environmental **resources**, incorporating **resilience**, and linking **local** actions to **regional** and **global** concerns.”

-American Planning Association







# Sustainability in the Comprehensive Plan

## **Environmental Protection**

- Energy Security
- Climate Change Preparedness
- Water Conservation
- Tree Canopy Conservation and Growth
- Biodiversity



# Sustainability in the Comprehensive Plan

## **Public Utilities**

- Drought preparedness
- Water reuse and reclamation
- Water Conservation
- Waste-to-energy
- Rainwater collection
- Alternative and Renewable Energy



# Revision Topic Areas

## **Environmental Protection**

1. STAR Communities
2. Resilience
3. Building Rating Systems (LEED, etc.)
4. Alternative Energy and Transport
5. Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development
6. Urban Forestry
7. Food Systems





# Revision Topic Areas

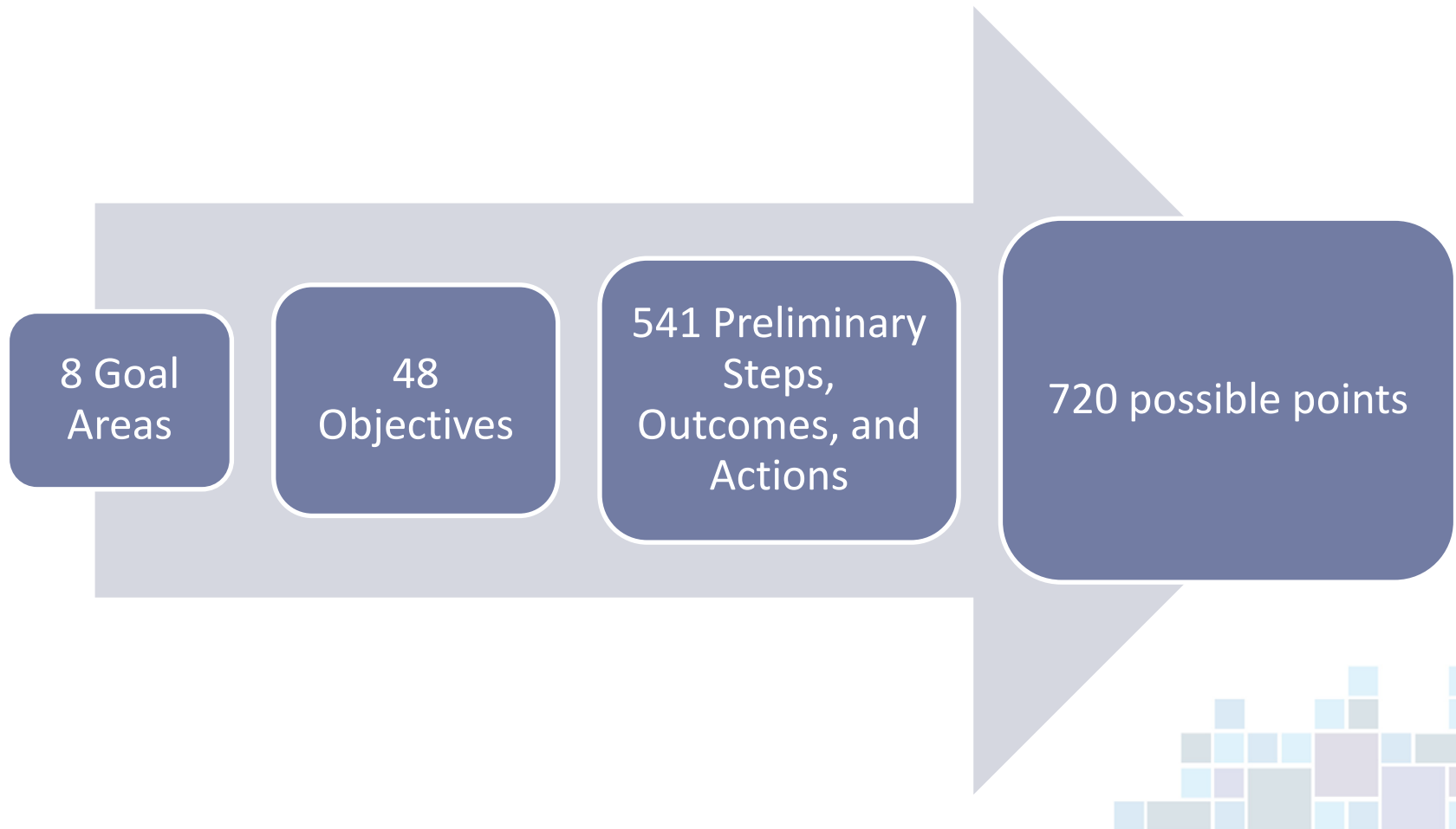


## Public Utilities

1. New Water Sources
2. Safe Drinking Water
3. Drainage Basin Plans



# STAR Communities



# 38 STAR-Certified Cities

## Select Cities by Certification

5-STAR	4-STAR	3-STAR
Baltimore, MD Northampton, MA Seattle, WA	Raleigh, NC Austin, TX Memphis, TN Portland, OR Washington, DC	Atlanta, GA Birmingham, AL Houston, TX Phoenix, AZ



# STAR Action Example

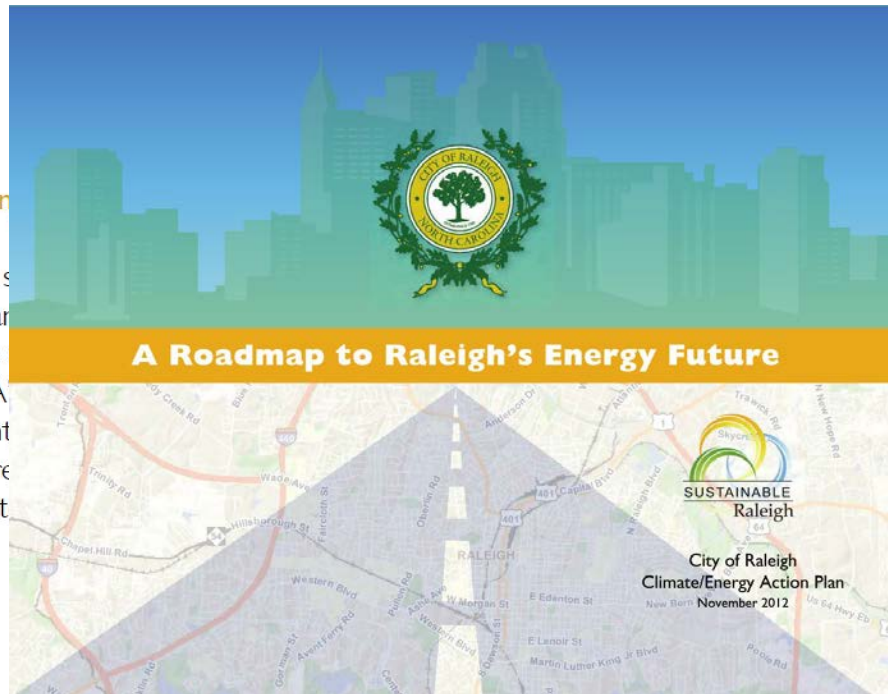
## Action I:

### Plan Development

#### Adopt a climate change

Although applicants may s  
adaptation into other plan  
addresses climate change

- King County, WA
- Barnstable Count
- Keene, NH addre  
framework to int



...s integrate climate change  
community-wide plan that

mitigation efforts;

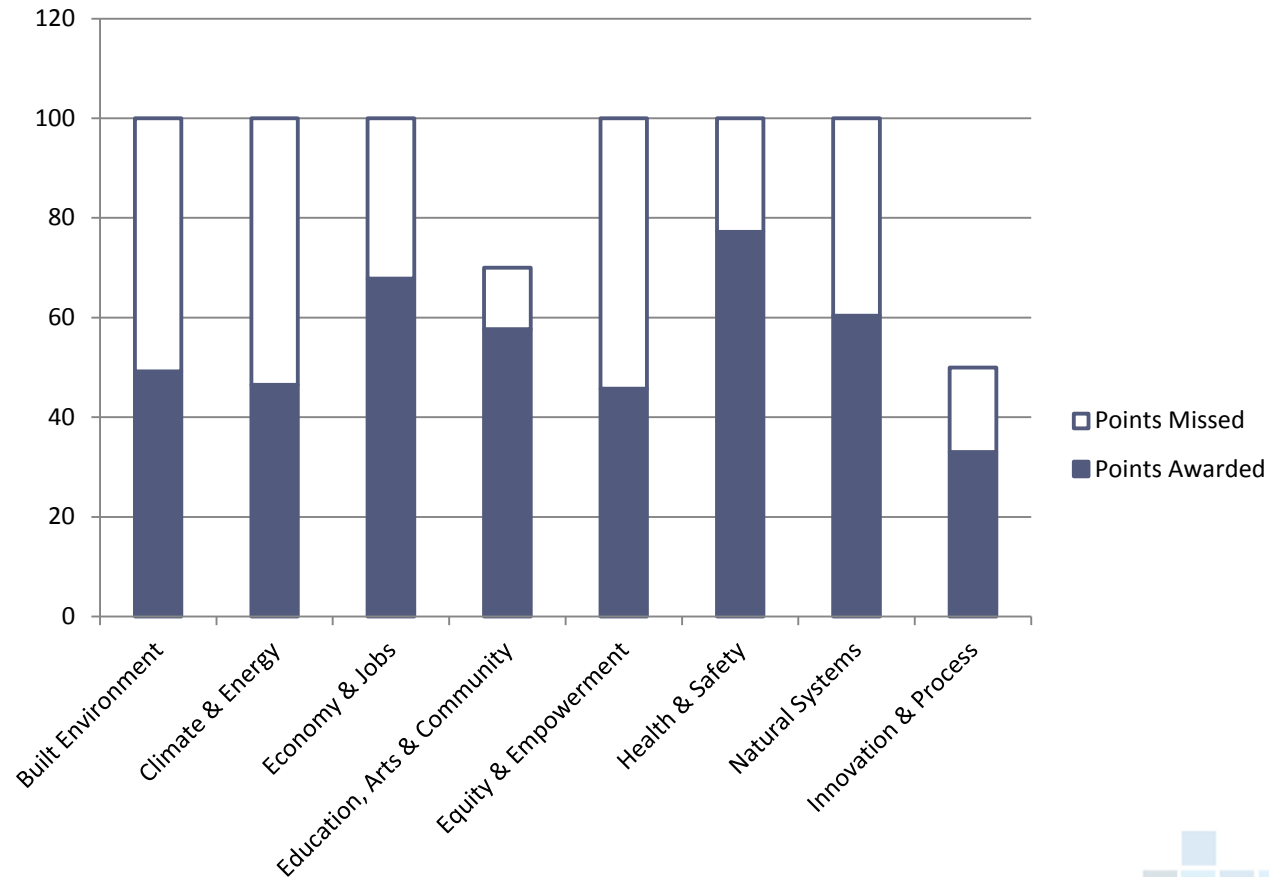
Mitigation Plan;

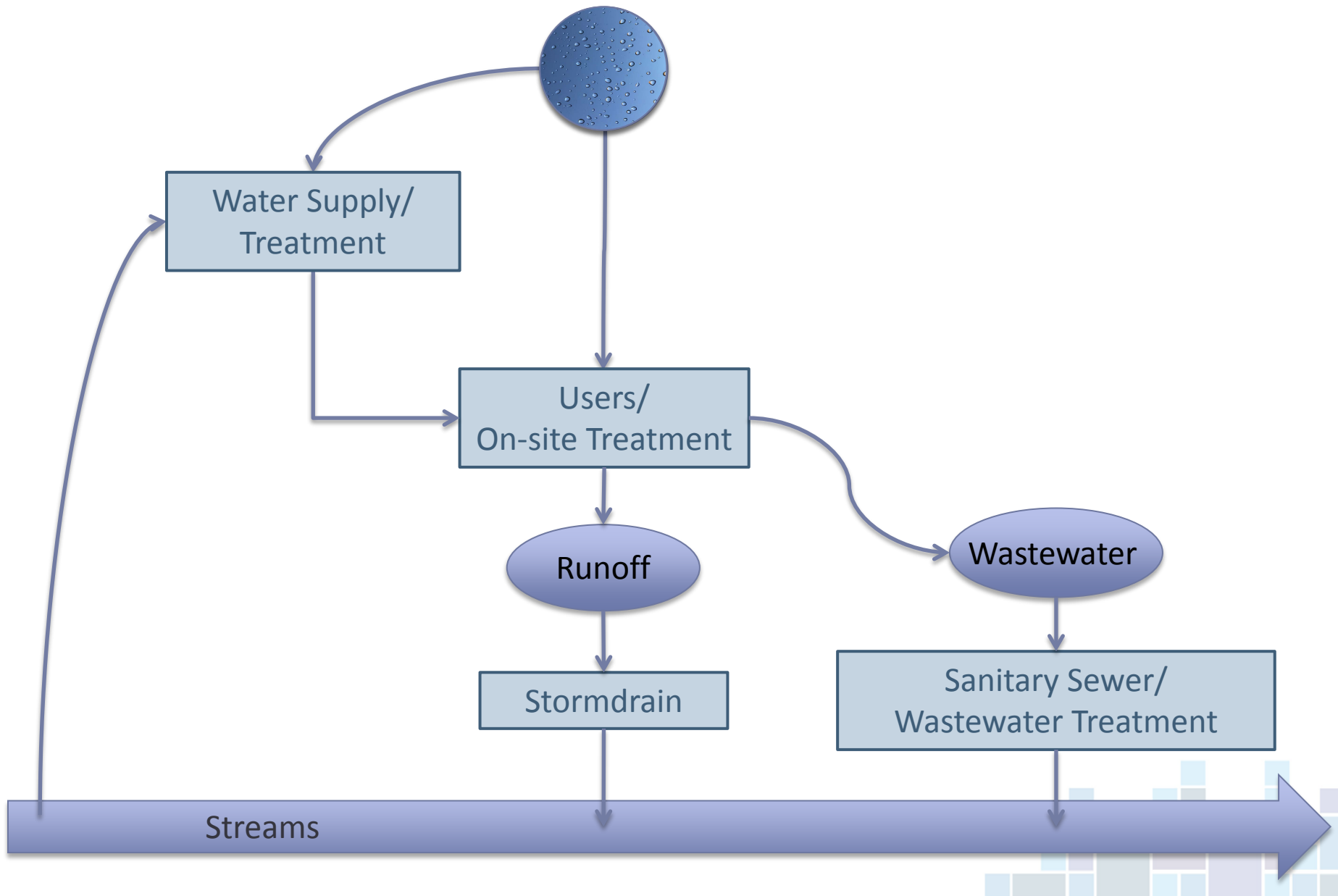
which establishes a policy





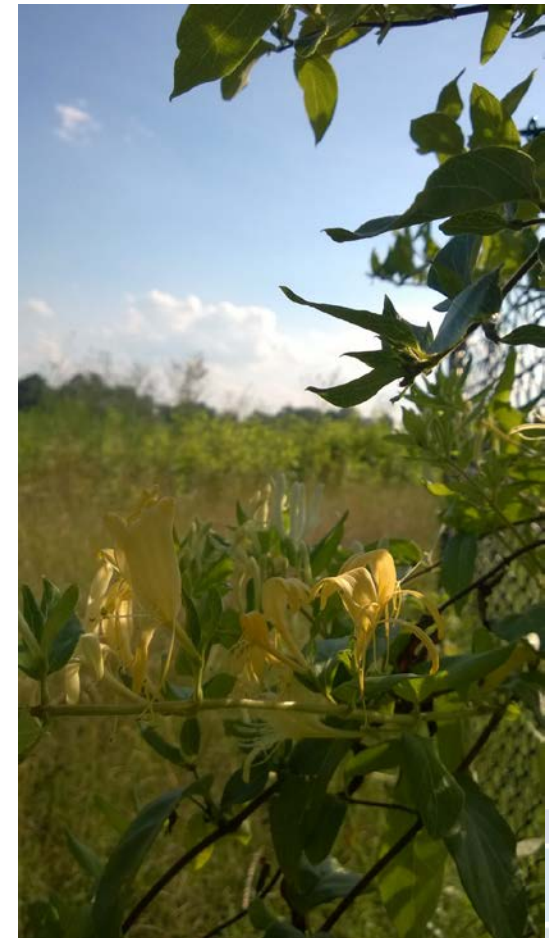
# STAR Results (2015)

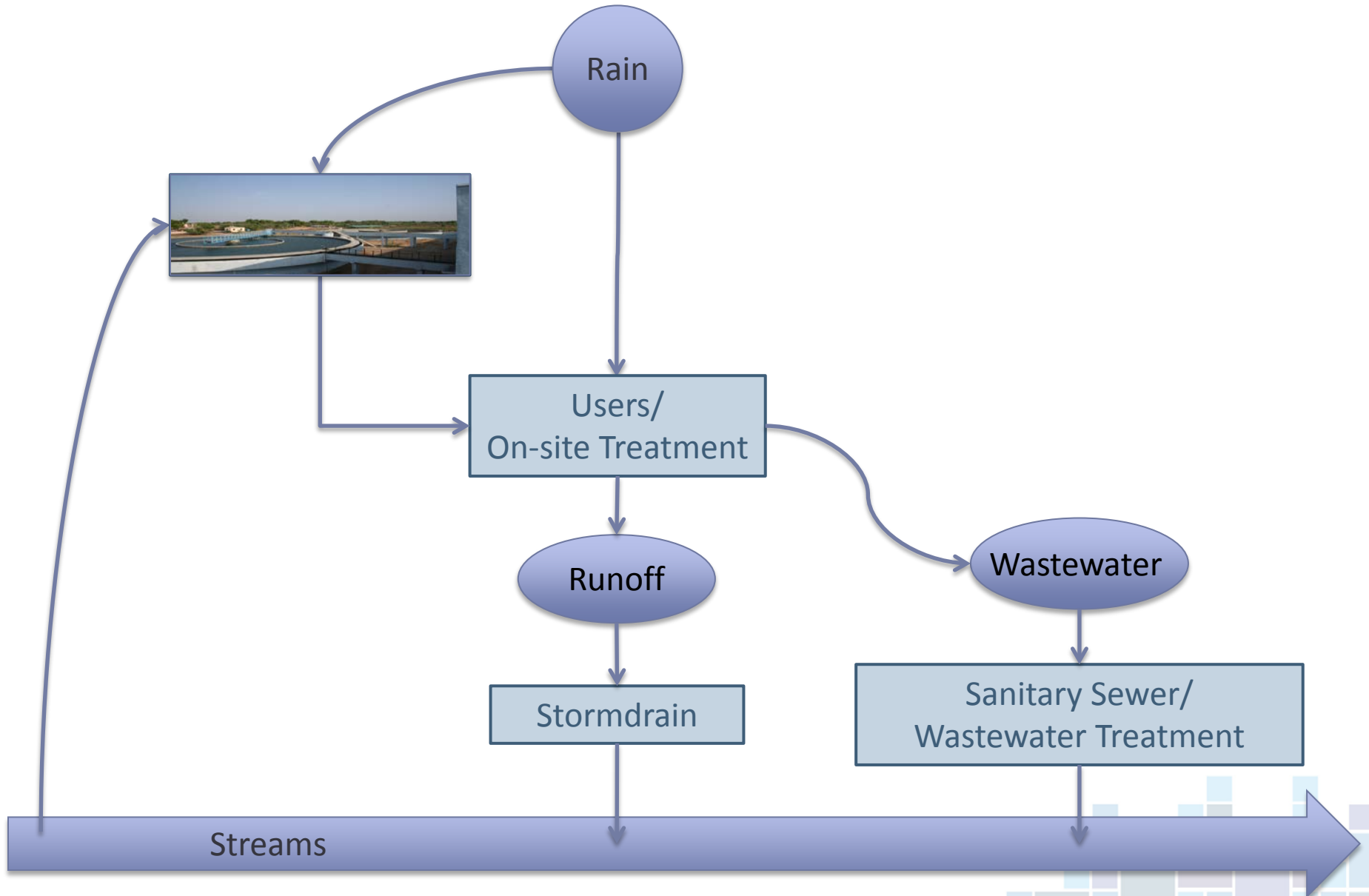




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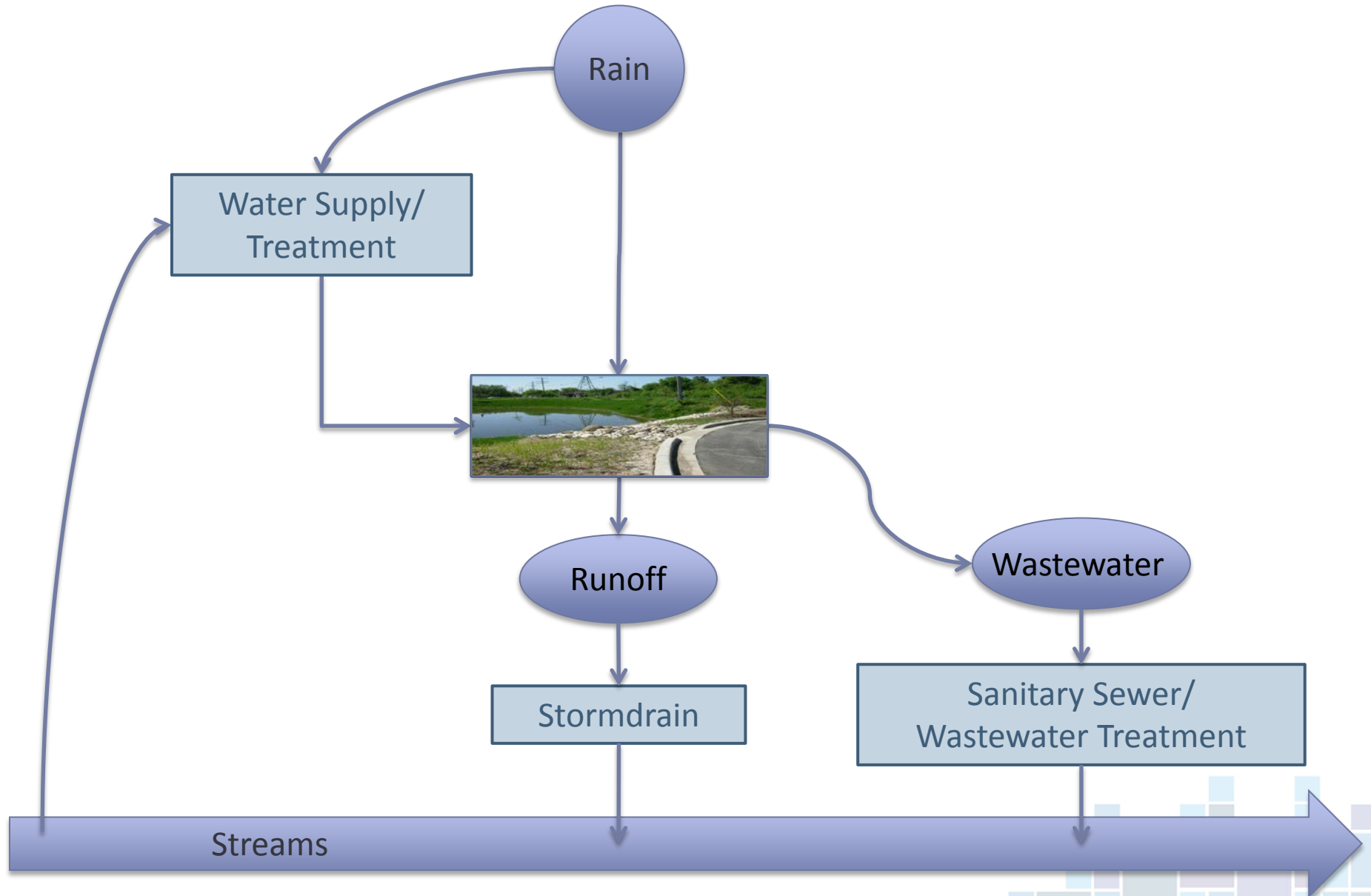






- Planning for water resources in the face of a changing and uncertain climate that may result in greater extremes of rainfall and drought. While the addition of Lake Benson as a drinking water source has significantly increased overall system resiliency and capacity, additional sources will need to be identified and acquired. This planning process may be impacted by the effects of a changing climate;

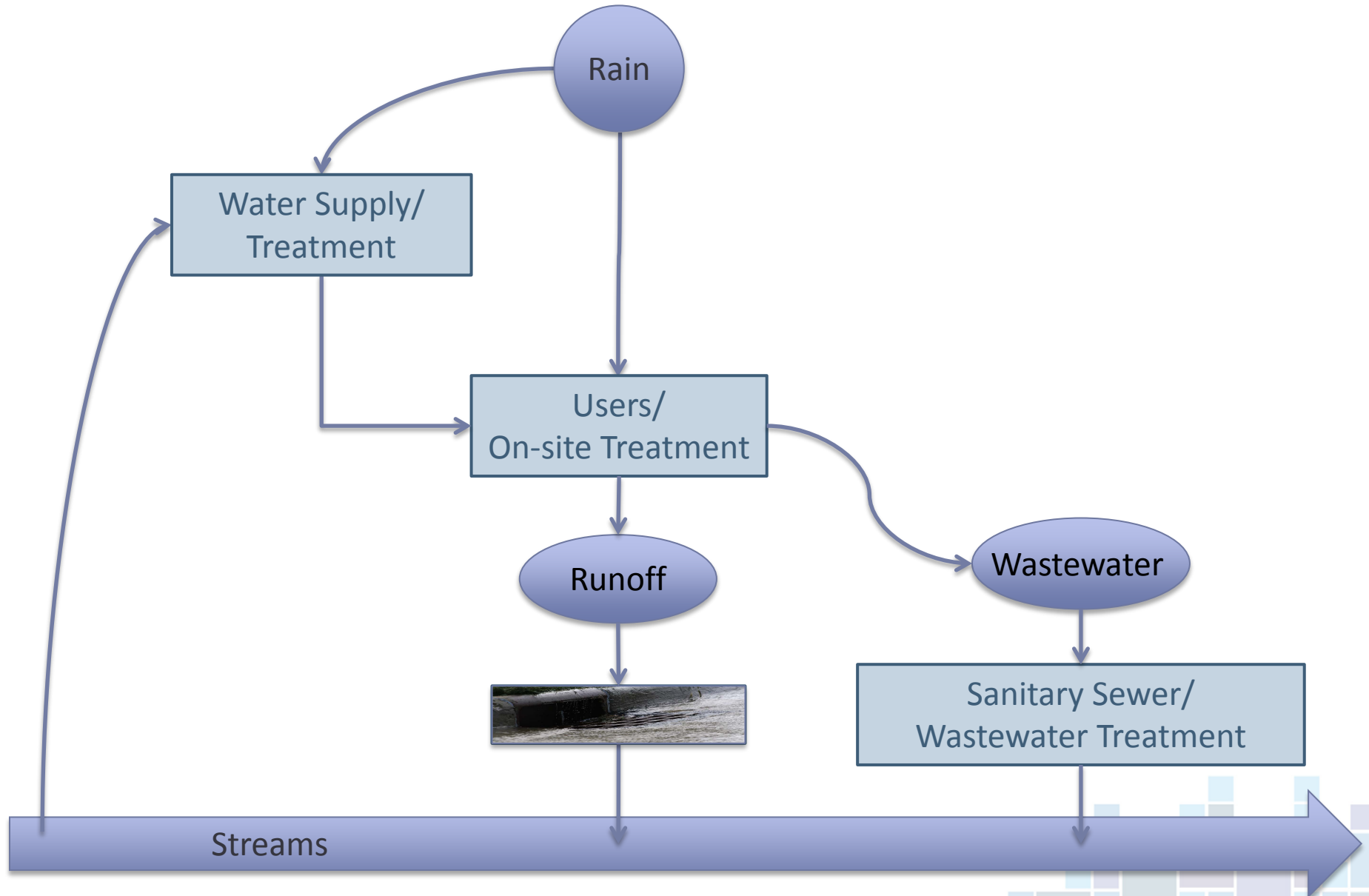




## Rating Systems for Sustainability

As the real estate and construction industries move toward more sustainable practices, third-party rating systems have played an important role both in defining what constitutes a sustainable development practice, and also in certifying that such practices have been employed to a degree that the resulting structure or development can be labeled “green” or “sustainable.”







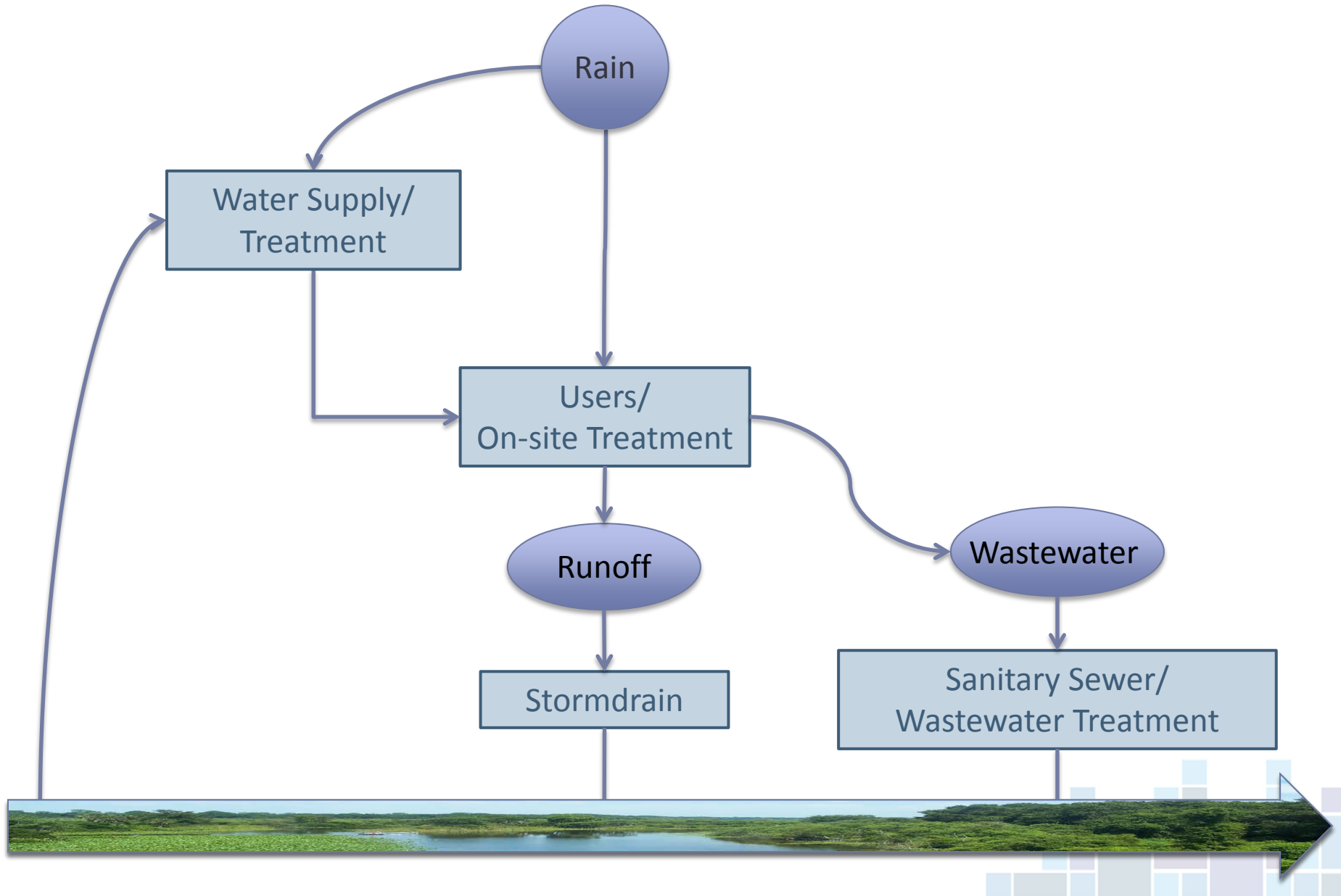


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### Policy EP 3.12 Mitigating Stormwater Impacts

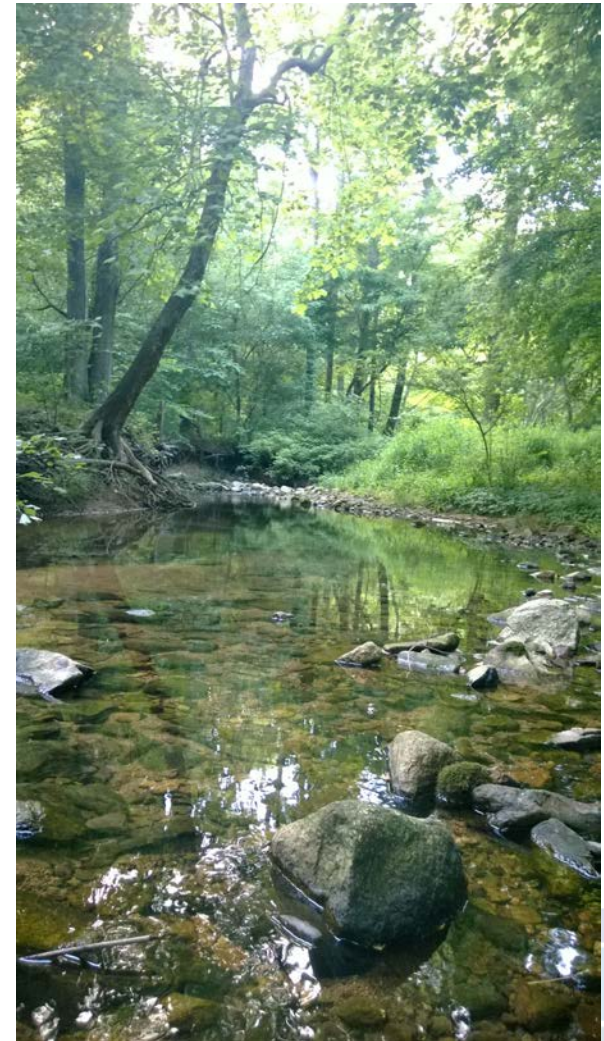
Potential stormwater impacts from new development on adjoining properties should mimic pre-development conditions and control the peak rate of runoff and/or volume of runoff so as to avoid flooding of adjoining and downstream properties, erosion of stream banks, and to allow the recharging of groundwater. The intent is to avoid environmental and economic damage to the adjacent properties, City infrastructure, and receiving surface waters. (3, 5, 6)

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As part of stormwater management program, the City is developing stormwater management plans for each of the approximately 25 drainage basins located completely or partially within the City's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). The purpose of each stormwater management plan is to provide recommendations for structural and nonstructural improvements that may be made in the drainage basin to alleviate existing and projected future stormwater problems related to flooding, erosion, and water quality. As more such studies are completed, it can be anticipated that more problems will be identified. Flood damage is currently the primary concern but water quality improvements will have to be implemented in order to meet federal and state regulations.





# At This Meeting

- Topic tables
- Draft documents
- Staff
  - Facilities and Fleet Management
  - Stormwater Management
  - Public Utilities
  - Office of Sustainability



# What's Next?

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