



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 23, 2022

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### **Mayor Romero's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Enters Next Phase.**

*City of Tucson Selects Nationally Recognized Firm, Buro Happold to Lead the Effort*

Tucson, AZ.—The City of Tucson has selected the nationally-recognized firm of Buro Happold to develop the city's first ever Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). Under the leadership of Mayor Romero, the plan will lay out a series of clear and achievable strategies for Tucson to become net zero city by 2030. Buro Happold was selected for its world-class climate action work in cities like Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New York, and Chicago, and the [C40 Cities](#) global network. The Climate Action and Adaptation Plan is expected to be completed by December 2022.

Under Romero's leadership, the City of Tucson declared a climate emergency in 2020, leading the way in equitable climate action and sustainability efforts in the Southwest. In the past two years, Mayor and Council have operationalized climate action across City programs and departments.

*"In the last year alone, we have taken concrete steps to achieve the goals outlined in our Climate Emergency Declaration, including making sure our buildings are EV-ready, adding electric buses to our transit fleet, and planting thousands of trees," said Tucson Mayor Regina Romero. "Building off this work, we have brought onboard Buro Happold to help shape our Climate Action Plan and create a more livable, vibrant, and healthy Tucson," said Mayor Regina Romero.*

Buro Happold will center equity to ensure Tucson's frontline communities play an active part in shaping the planning process. The Mayor's Office conducted more than a dozen climate listening sessions that took place in 2021 and produced over 1,300 climate-related community concerns and recommendations. The firm will also draw insights from the City of Tucson's climate action community survey, which gathered data from close to 4,000 participants from February-May 2021.

Since Mayor Romero took office, the City has taken the following climate actions:

- Implemented nature-based solutions like Tucson Million Trees and Storm to Shade programs (formally Green Stormwater Infrastructure Program) to address extreme heat,
- Adopted the Electric Vehicle (EV) Readiness Roadmap which provides a foundation to advance EV adoption city-wide,
- Added electric buses to our transit fleet and installed EV charging infrastructure,
- Passed EV ready code amendment for all new residential development,
- Begun the process to require new multi-family and commercial buildings to be EV-ready,
- Advanced the City's *One Water 2100* and *Zero Waste Roadmap*,
- Advanced waste-diversion initiatives at the Los Reales Sustainability Campus.

**About Buro Happold:** Buro Happold has emerged as a nationally recognized consultant in undertaking these initiatives. The firm boasts a diverse and deep team of recognized climate experts and engineering consultants — as well as a successful history of developing climate action plans in several major cities and metropolitan areas including Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New York, Chicago, and Cambridge, Mass. The firm also helped write and implement the first municipal action plan fulfilling the requirements of the Paris Agreement — a notable project completed in collaboration with the City of New York and the global group C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, whose members include leading international cities with a commitment to addressing climate change impacts.

**Attachment:** City of Tucson Climate Action Planning and Implementation Efforts

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