Suburban Utopia?

National Growth Areas Alliance Summit
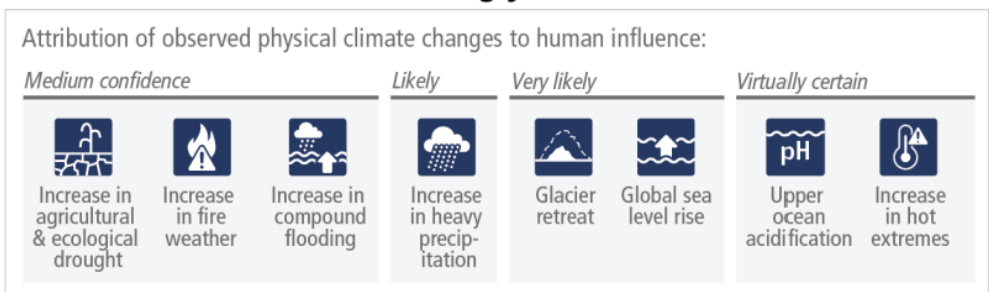
4 May 2023

St Jack & Co
CLIMATE CONSULTANTS
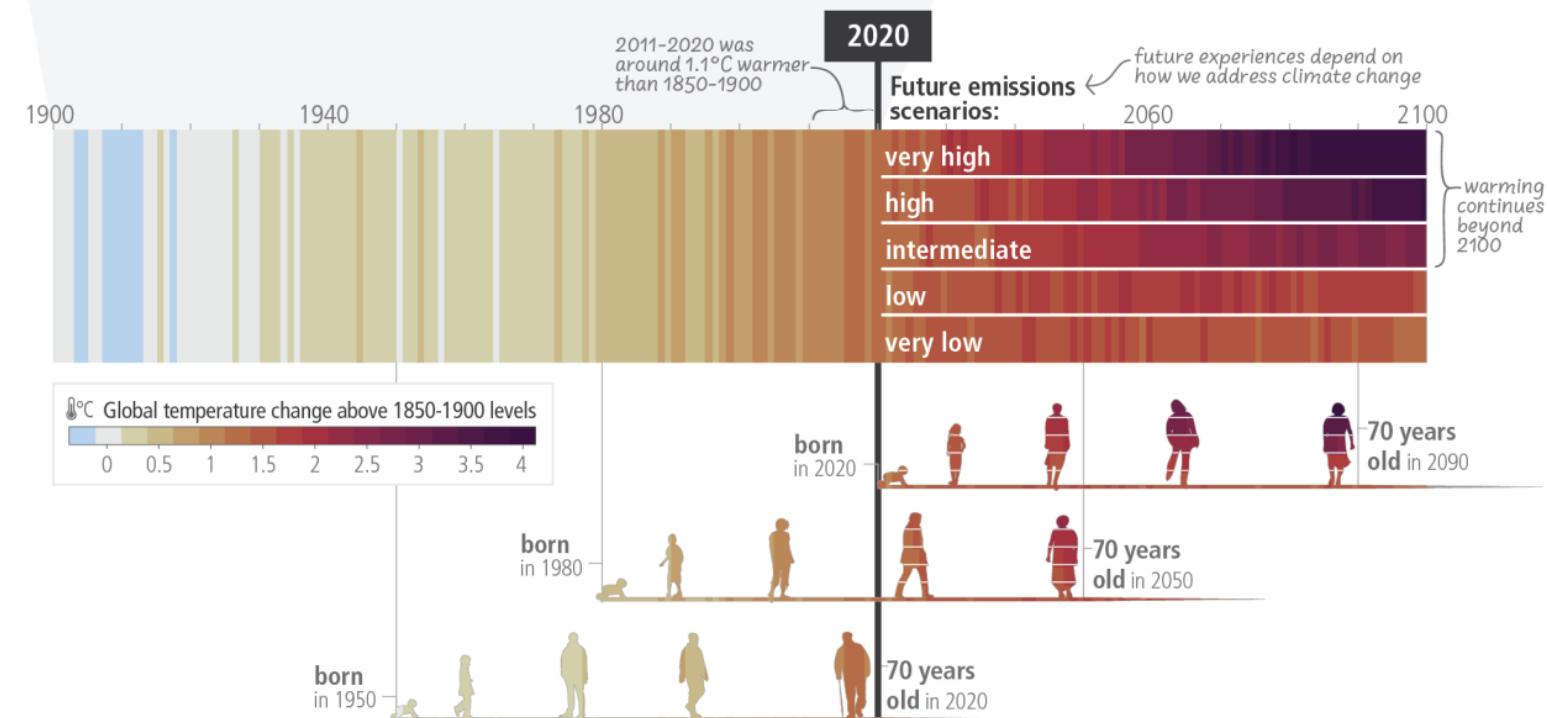
Working together to accelerate climate action
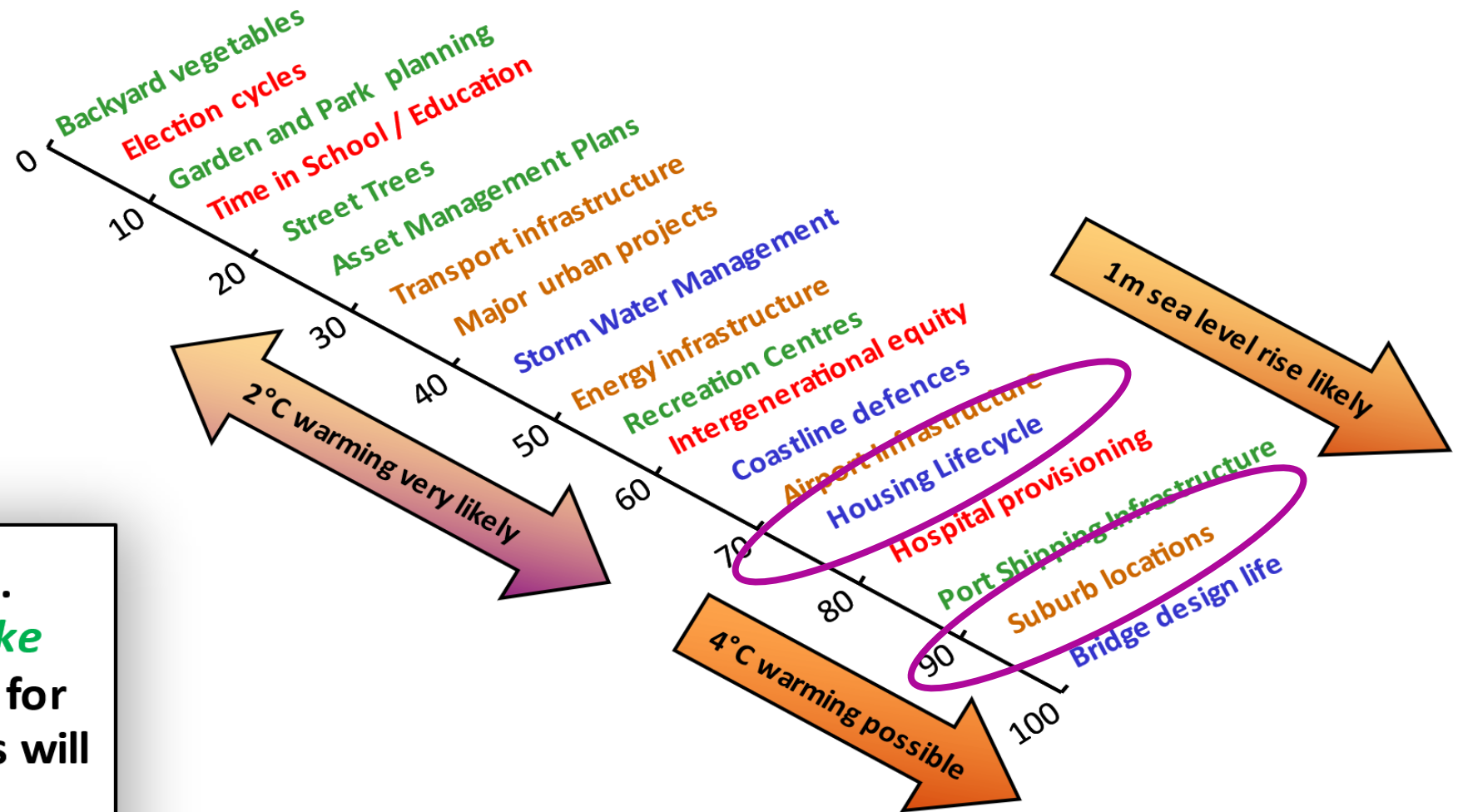
b) Impacts are driven by changes in multiple physical climate conditions, which are increasingly attributed to human influence

Attribution of observed physical climate changes to human influence:

Medium confidence			Likely	Very likely		Virtually certain	
Increase in agricultural & ecological drought	Increase in fire weather	Increase in compound flooding	Increase in heavy precipitation	Glacier retreat	Global sea level rise	Upper ocean acidification	Increase in hot extremes

c) The extent to which current and future generations will experience a hotter and different world depends on choices now and in the near-term

2011-2020 was around 1.1°C warmer than 1850-1900

2020

Future emissions scenarios:

future experiences depend on how we address climate change

- very high
- high
- intermediate
- low
- very low

warming continues beyond 2100

1900   1940   1980   2060   2100

🌡°C Global temperature change above 1850-1900 levels

0   0.5   1   1.5   2   2.5   3   3.5   4

born in 2020 — 70 years old in 2090

born in 1980 — 70 years old in 2050

born in 1950 — 70 years old in 2020

Source: IPCC AR6 Summary for Policymakers, 2023

DECISION LIFETIMES…
the *decisions YOU make* today MUST account for how long their effects will be felt…

Labels along axis (0 to 100):
Backyard vegetables, Election cycles, Garden and Park planning, Time in School / Education, Street Trees, Asset Management Plans, Transport infrastructure, Major urban projects, Storm Water Management, Energy infrastructure, Recreation Centres, Intergenerational equity, Coastline defences, Airport infrastructure, Housing Lifecycle, Hospital provisioning, Port Shipping Infrastructure, Suburb locations, Bridge design life

2°C warming very likely
4°C warming possible
1m sea level rise likely

Source: Stafford Smith et al. 2011 (after Jones & McInnes 2004)

Councils have a duty of care to manage risks

Climate risks impact Council business, eg.

- Assets increasingly at risk of damage
- Ability to deliver services diminished
- Additional service demand and clean-up costs in disasters

Not managing risks may...

- Harm your community
- Open Council to litigation risks

$46+M value by retrofitting climate ready in Mount Barker

78%
cheaper
to run

7.6 stars
Net Zero

66%
energy
saving

Source: Sustainability Victoria
https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/news/news-articles/2023-good-friday-appeal-charity-home

SA Councils influencing better housing?

DIRECT

Improving Council policy and practice

- Internal review committees
- Clear guidance on planning policy interpretation
- Planner training / capability raising

Intervening in the market

- Selling Council or state-owned land with encumbrances
- Financial incentives like rate rebates and subsidies
- Expedited DA for sustainable proposals
- Partnerships with developers, volume home builders, green finance providers etc.

INDIRECT

Advocating for policy change

- Planning & Design Code
- Regional Plan
- National Construction Code

Educating consumers

- Exemplar display homes
- Resources
- Forums
- Campaigns

Source: Developed by Greg Sarre and Jen St Jack, Resilient Hills & Coasts

Source: Hawaii Neighbourhood Forests https://www.treehooo.org/tree-benefits

Source: Tree Equity Score, American Forests https://treeequityscore.org/
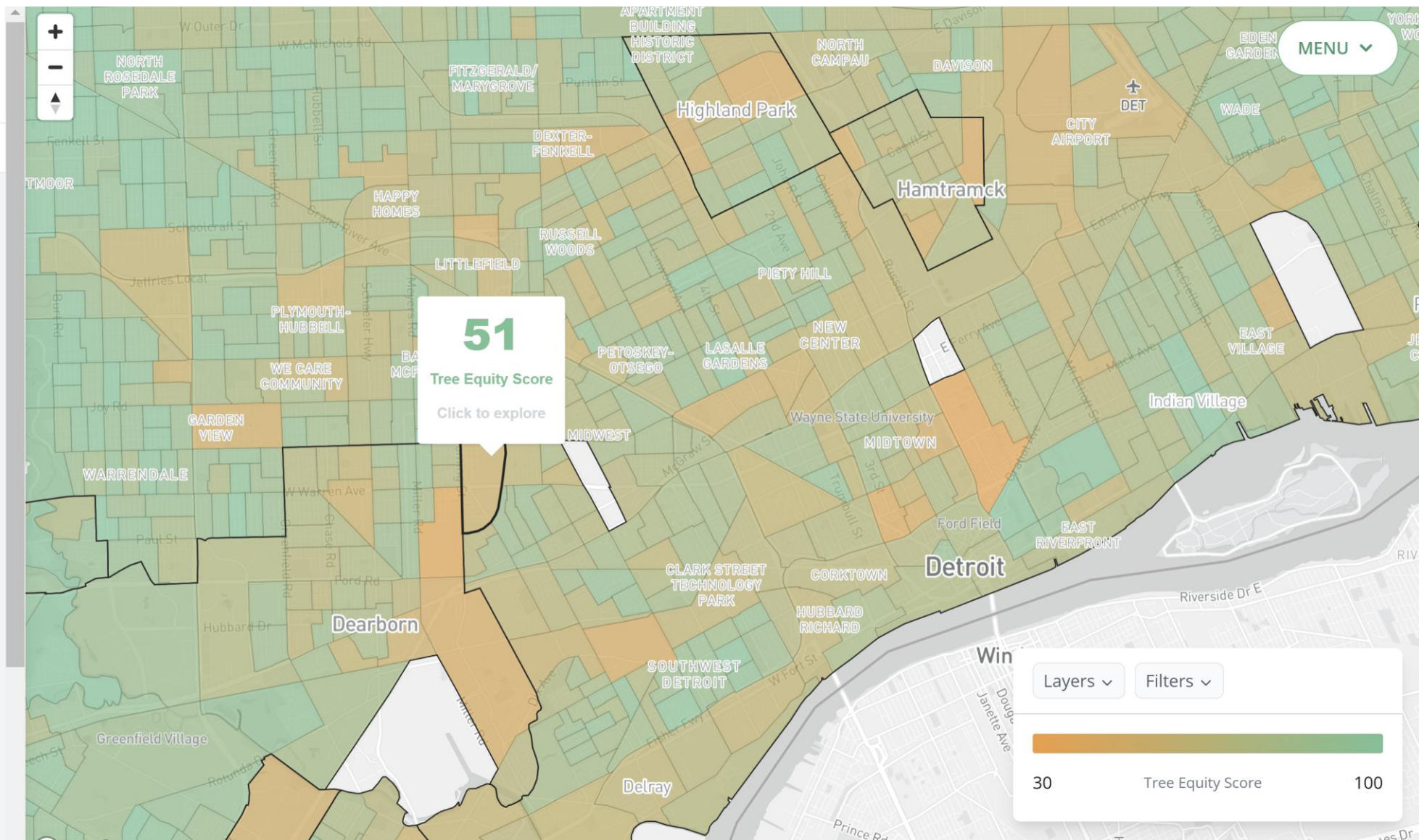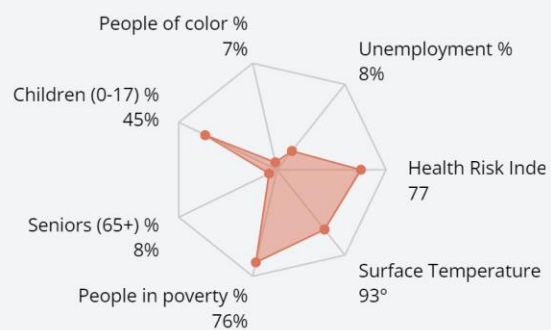
THE OPPORTUNITY

Affordable, comfortable
and healthy living

Lower power bills
(heating, cooling etc)

Lower insurance
premiums

Lower
finance costs

More resilient community

Reduce environmental
and carbon footprint

Positions the district as
a desirable area

Align with Council's
reputation and green values