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**GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019**

**PRE-MEETING (DINNER) 5:00 P.M. ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM
WORKSHOP, 5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM
250 N. 5TH STREET**

To become the most livable community west of the Rockies by 2025

1. Discussion Topics

- a. Broadband Update
- b. Xcel Energy Update

2. Next Workshop Topics

3. Other Business

What is the purpose of a Workshop?

The purpose of a Workshop is for the presenter to provide information to City Council about an item or topic that they may be discussing at a future meeting. The less formal setting of a Workshop is intended to facilitate an interactive discussion among Councilmembers.

How can I provide my input about a topic on tonight's Workshop agenda?

Individuals wishing to provide input about Workshop topics can:

1. Send an email (addresses found here www.gjcity.org/city-government/) or call one or more members of City Council (970-244-1504);
 2. Provide information to the City Manager (citymanager@gjcity.org) for dissemination to the City Council. If your information is submitted prior to 3 p.m. on the date of the Workshop, copies will be provided to Council that evening. Information provided after 3 p.m. will be disseminated the next business day.
 3. Attend a Regular Council Meeting (generally held the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 6 p.m. at City Hall) and provide comments during "Citizen Comments."
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Grand Junction City Council

Workshop Session

Item #1.a.

Meeting Date: September 16, 2019

Presented By: Greg Caton, City Manager

Department: Information Technology

Submitted By: Scott Hockins, IT Business Operations

Information

SUBJECT:

Broadband Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As part of the City Council's Economic Development Plan, communication and technology infrastructure was identified as an essential tool for the development of commerce and industry leading to long-term economic competitiveness for the City of Grand Junction. In 2017 City Council voted 5-2 not to build a municipally owned network.

BACKGROUND OR DETAILED INFORMATION:

Project History

In May 2014, the Grand Junction City Council adopted a three to five-year Economic Development Plan to create a clear plan of action for improving business conditions and attracting and retaining employers. Section 1.4 of the plan focuses on providing technology infrastructure that enables and supports private investment. Expanding broadband capabilities and improving wireless and cellular coverage are key objectives of the Economic Development Plan.

In 2014 at the beginning of the broadband project, the City met and frequently corresponded with CenturyLink, Charter, and UPN about the availability of fiber to City facility locations and business parks. Based on that discussion, we learned that none of the business parks we surveyed had installed conduit for fiber during their development. CenturyLink provided us with an estimate of distance from the nearest fiber-optic cable splice-point to each business park. Those distances ranged from just

under one mile to currently available in the park. At that time, CenturyLink was offering to waive construction costs for new customers who signed up for multiyear agreements when the distance was less than one mile.

At the spring election in 2015, voters approved an override of Senate Bill 152. That override allows the City of Grand Junction to take steps to improve the Internet services for our community. As surrounding communities compete for new business by offering high-speed Internet (frequently referred to as broadband) services, it became an objective of the Grand Junction City Council to explore ways to foster economic growth and development for our citizens and businesses.

In the summer of 2015, City Council authorized a professional contract to provide the information and recommendations to make informed decisions regarding investments in broadband infrastructure and actions the City can take to expand its use in the community. The plan solicited input from various stakeholders – businesses, citizens, providers, carriers, legislative representative, and City staff. The plan will also provide direction related to code enhancements that will ensure cost-effective broadband infrastructure construction in conjunction with City capital projects, as well as private utility and development efforts.

City Council directed staff to explore a public/private partnership that would accomplish the following goals: The City would have substantial ownership of a fiber-optic network that would pass every home and business within the City limits. The City would partner with a company or multiple companies to provide broadband services. Broadband services would be available to residences for \$50-80 per month and to businesses for under \$300 per month. Although staff was able to provide a project that met the objectives of the project, City Council voted 5-2 not to continue with the municipal-owned network and directed staff to work with private service providers to improve services.

Current Efforts and Achievements

Our Public property provides a stable platform for broadband and cellular facilities and can help support the needs of residents. Master License agreements are approved to deploy telecommunications facilities in public right-of-way to provide enhanced voice and data wireless services to customers. This infrastructure includes more accurate location detection for emergency fire and police calls; faster data speeds on smartphones, tablets, and other devices; and better reliability and quality of voice calls. These facilities provide capacity to better service the mobile data usage of Grand Junction's residents, businesses, and customers. The City Council has also approved land leases for cellular towers in Canyon View Park, Columbine Park, Lincoln Park, and undeveloped Saccammano Park.

During the Downtown Uplift- Main Street Project, the Downtown Development Authority contracted with a local company to design and install an audio system and video system for Main Street. The conduit was installed during the construction with capacity for blow-in fiber and is now utilized as part of the free WiFi for patrons.

CenturyLink, UPN, 32Waves, Emery Telecom, and Charter continue to report their fiber-optic connectivity successes. An important example was Charter's announcement of their Spectrum Internet Gig for residential customers and Spectrum Business Internet Gig for small and medium-sized business clients in the Grand Junction, Palisade and Fruita areas that featured internet services delivering a 1 Gbps connection to the home or business. The City continues to install shadow conduit and joint-trench agreements as a way to foster this growth when making public improvements.

The City of Grand Junction is a founding member of the Colorado Smart Cities Alliance which represents a network of the public, private, and academic leaders driving smart cities' progress. The Alliance is responsible for partnership solutions and innovations from within Colorado's leading municipalities and drives Colorado's premier technology and research companies to focus on solving the smart city issues. We are encouraged by emerging partnerships that will bring better connectivity to our most utilized public venues.

The City of Grand Junction is served by providers with speeds greater than or equal to 100 Mbs up to 1 gigabit. The attached map from the State of Colorado Broadband Office shows where incumbent providers have reported the availability of Internet service in the Grand Junction area.

Representatives from Charter Communications, Emery Telecom, Unite Private Networks, and 32Waves have been invited to update City Council on the state of broadband connectivity in Grand Junction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

SUGGESTED ACTION:

There is no suggested action at this point.

Attachments

1. SpeedMap08232019



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I want to...

View Broadband Coverage

>= 100 Mbps < 1 Gbps

>= 1 Gbps

Fixed Wireless Residential Speed

Tiers

>= 200 Kbps < 768 Kbps

>= 768 Kbps < 1.5 Mbps

>= 1.5 Mbps < 3 Mbps

>= 3 Mbps < 6 Mbps

>= 6 Mbps < 10 Mbps

>= 10 Mbps < 25 Mbps

>= 25 Mbps < 50 Mbps

>= 50 Mbps < 100 Mbps

>= 100 Mbps < 1 Gbps

>= 1 Gbps

Mobile Residential Speed Tiers

Commercial Coverage

Wireline Commercial Speed Tiers

Fixed Wireless Commercial Speed Tiers

Satellite Residential Speed Tiers

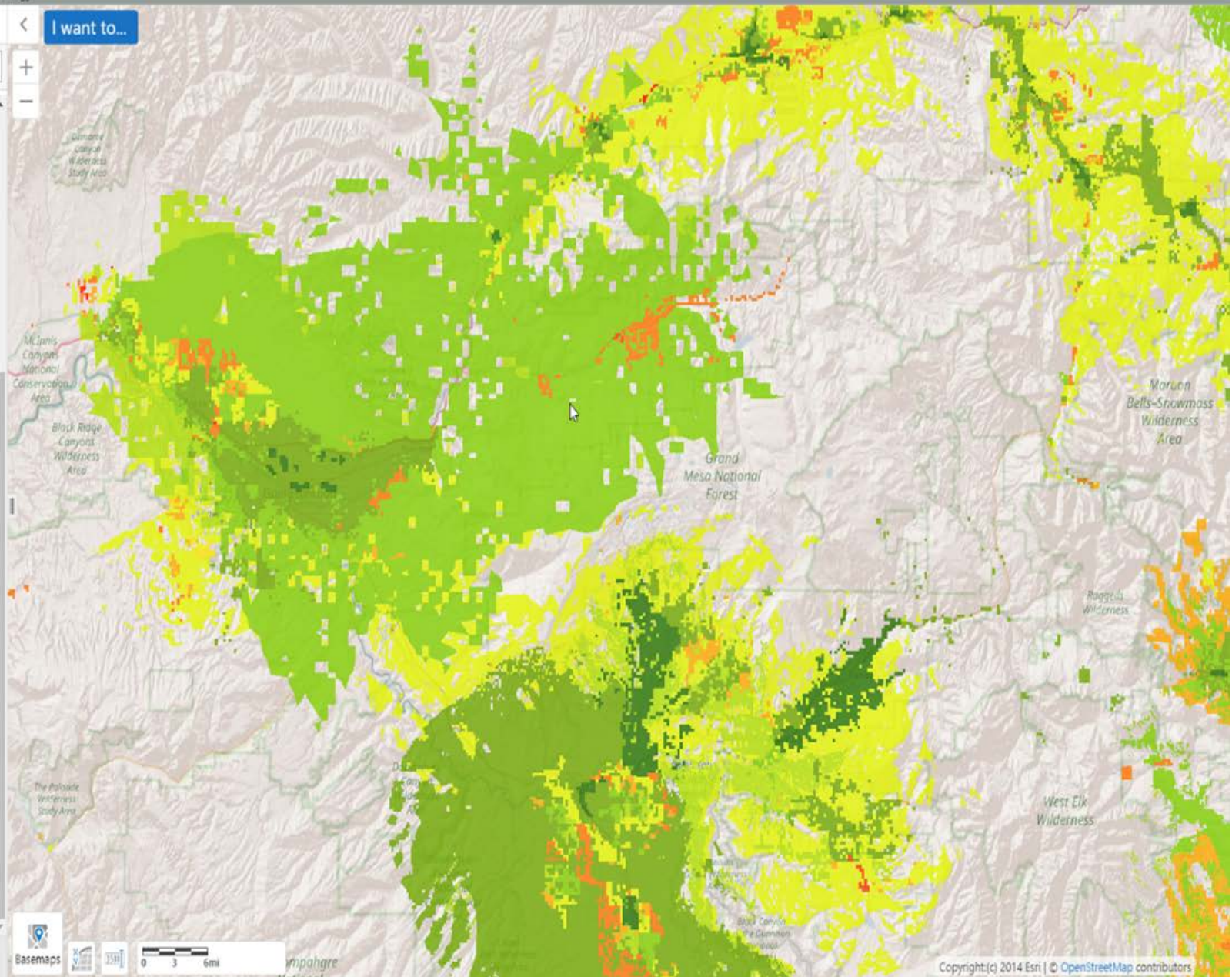
Satellite Commercial Speed Tiers

Number of Providers

Number of Wireline Providers

Number of Fixed Providers

Number of Mobile Providers



Layers

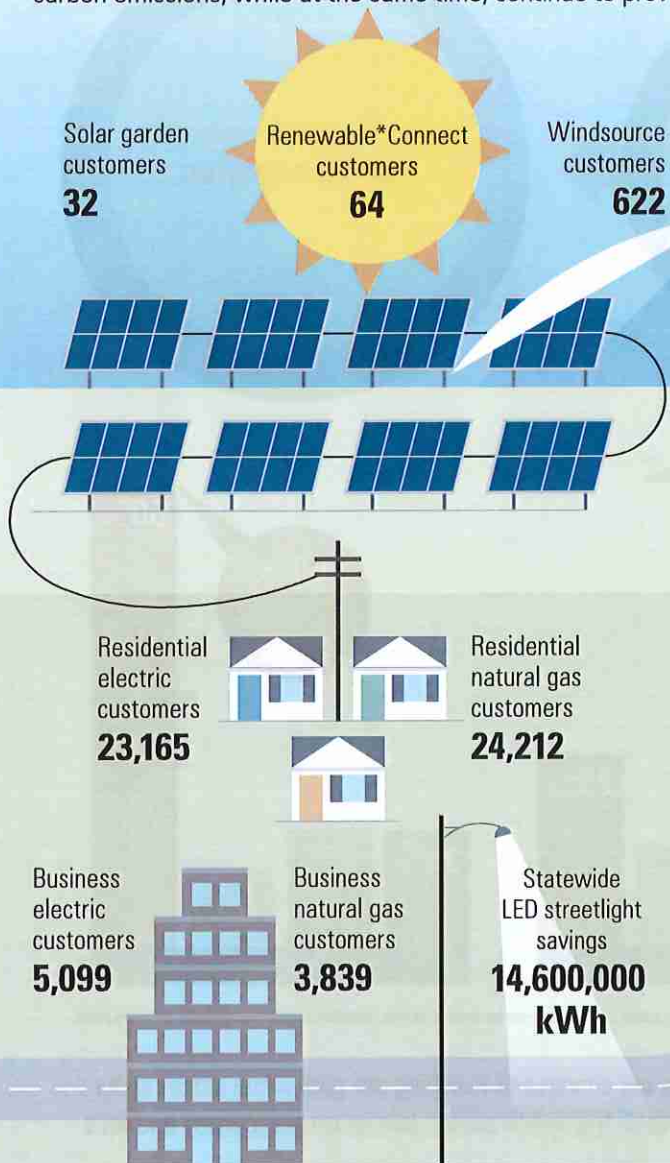


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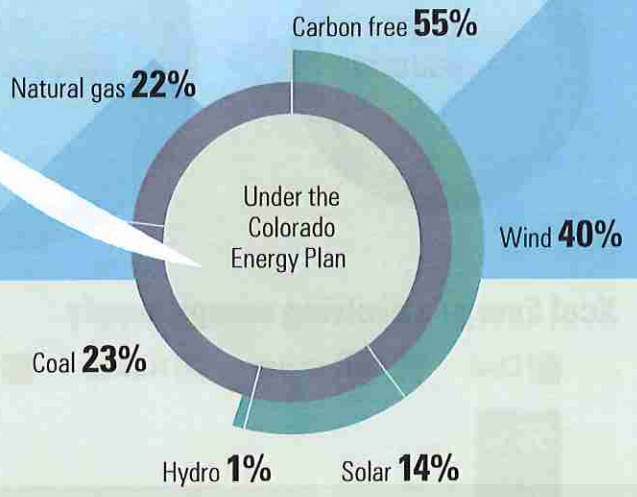
Our Commitment to Grand Junction



Colorado's energy needs are changing, and as one of our country's leading energy providers, Xcel Energy is dedicated to supplying cleaner energy to all of our customers. By partnering with the communities we serve, we believe we can reduce carbon emissions, while at the same time, continue to provide the affordable, reliable energy our customers expect and deserve.



2026 Colorado energy mix

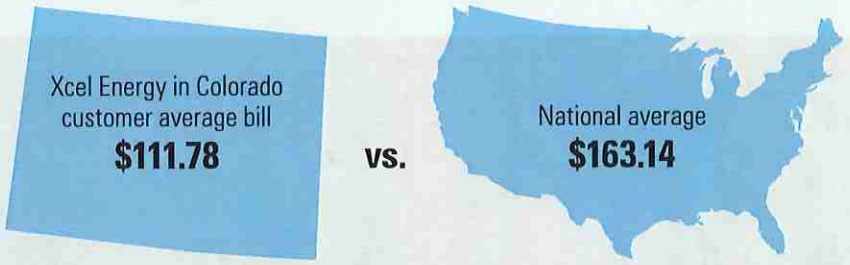


Community carbon emissions
316,344
(metric tons CO₂)



Residential customer bills are below the national average

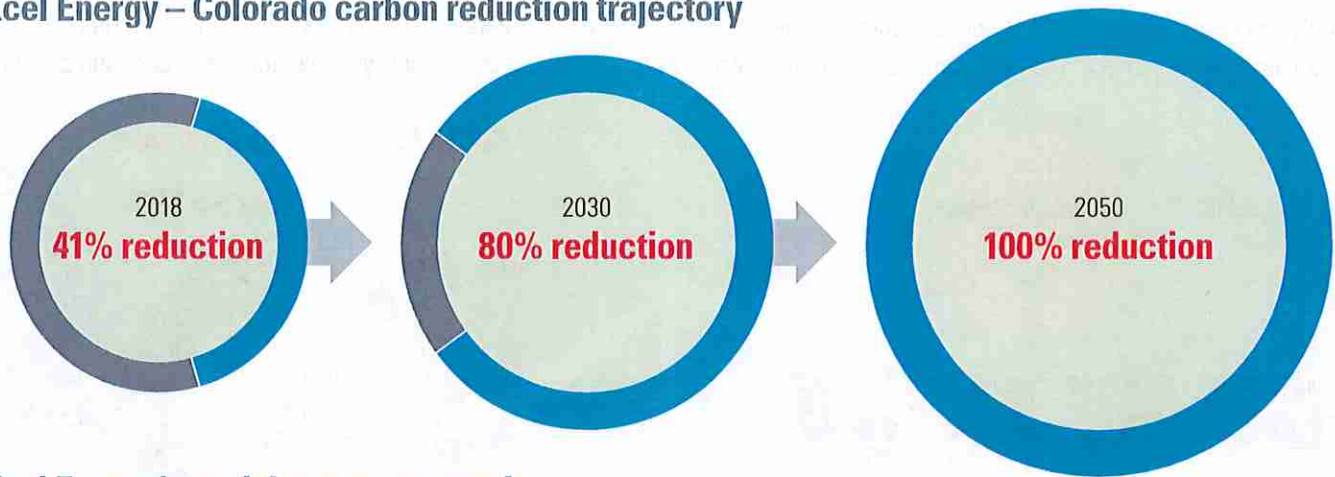
The average Colorado customer bill is well below the national average. We make that possible through a combination of clean energy investments, energy efficiency programs you can participate in, and modernizing the way we deliver energy to you.



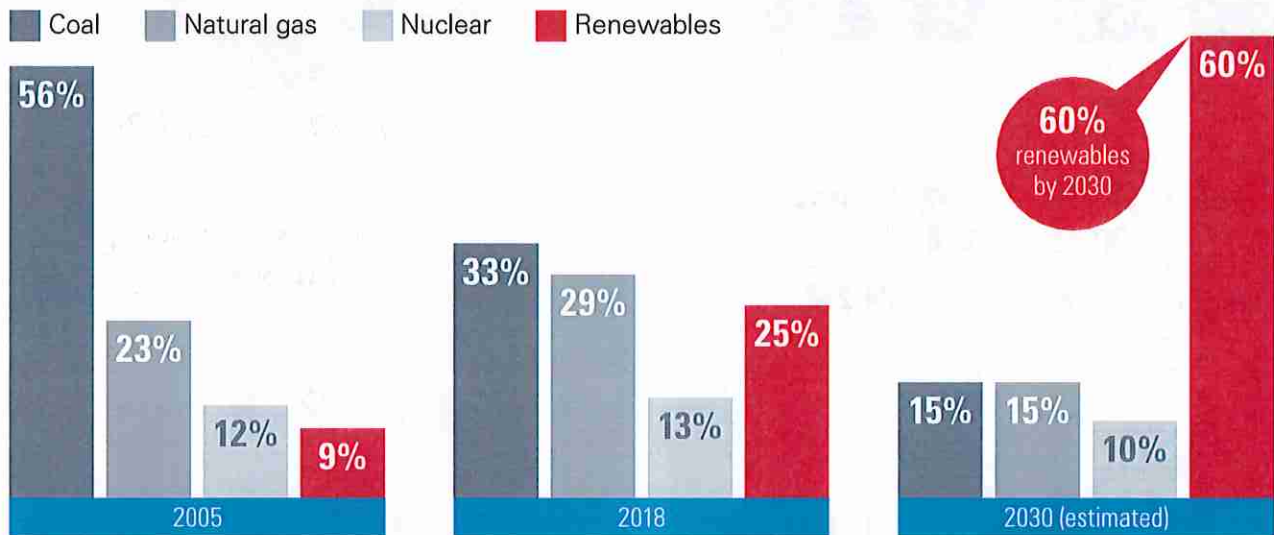
Source: 2017 average combined electric and natural gas bill from Energy Information Administration national reporting

We have set an ambitious vision—an industry-first—to serve customers with 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2050 and to reduce carbon emissions 80 percent by 2030 from 2005 levels. Although leading the clean energy transition is a strategic priority for us, **keeping customer bills low and enhancing the customer experience are, too.**

Xcel Energy – Colorado carbon reduction trajectory



Xcel Energy’s evolving energy supply



*Results are estimated and reflect potential scenarios that achieve 80% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030; actual system depends on various factors, including regulatory approval of future plans.

The year 2050 may be decades away, but by acting now, we increase our chances of reaching our goal while assuring our system remains reliable and our prices affordable. But we cannot achieve this vision alone. Join us on our journey and let’s build a clean energy future together.



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Grand Junction, Colorado - UPDATE

9.16.19

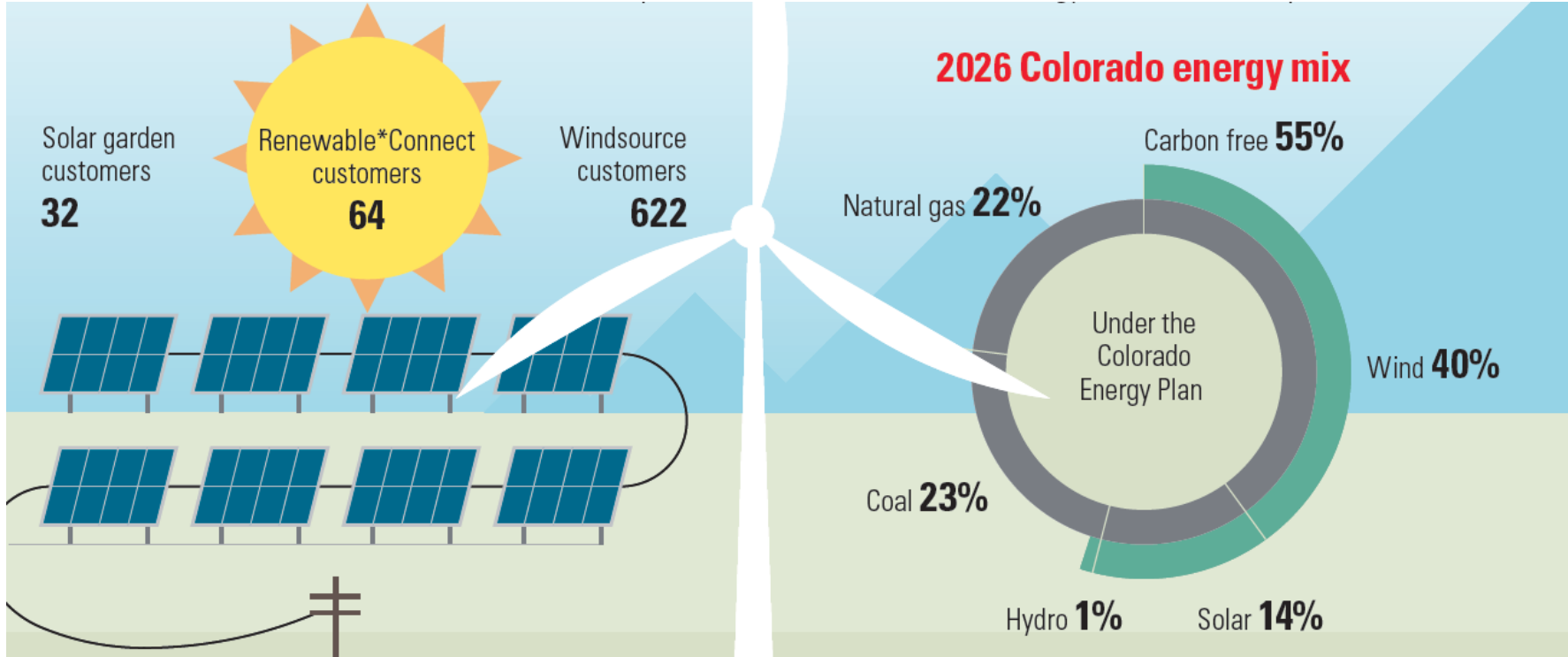
Tonight's Agenda

- Update on Xcel Energy
- Grand Junction's Community Report
- Streetlights
- Dos Rios Project

Xcel Energy – Building the Future

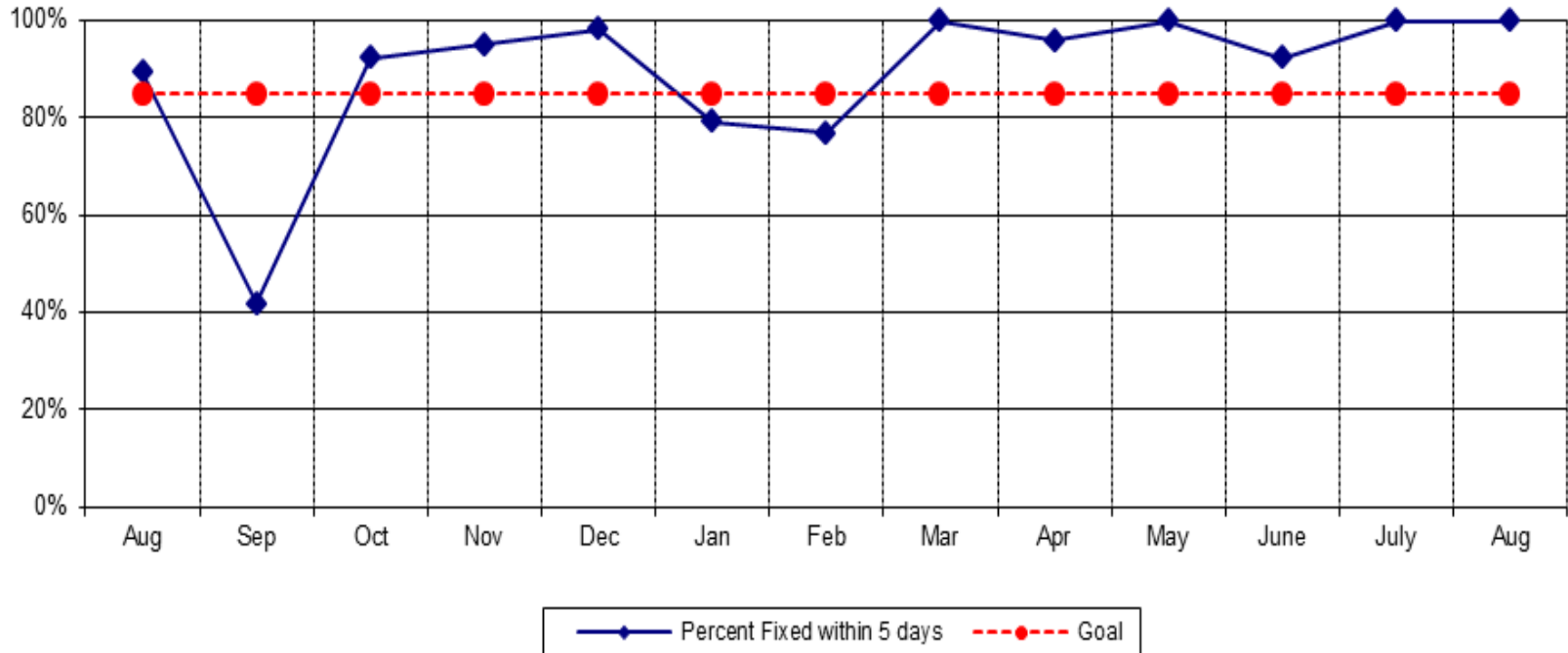
- Colorado Energy Plan
- December, 2018 Carbon Announcement
- 2019 Electric Rate Case
- Electric Vehicles

Xcel Energy – 2018 Community Report



Xcel Energy – Streetlights

Percent of Reported Street Light Outages Restored Within 5 Days
(The City of Grand Junction)





Xcel Energy in Grand Junction

- ★ Day of Service ★
- ★ United Way ★
- ★ Corporate Giving ★

