

# **Model Climate Ordinance**

# **Review for City of La Crosse**

Bolton & Menk

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# MEET THE TEAM



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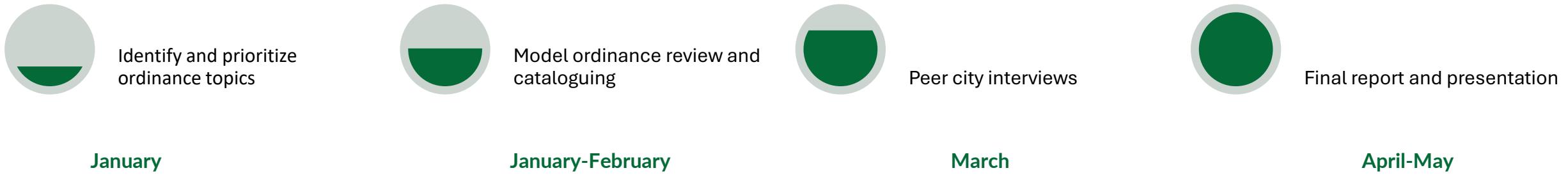


# Purpose and Goals

1. Align zoning code updates with the Climate Action Plan.
2. Provide policy recommendations and model ordinances through research, community interviews, etc.

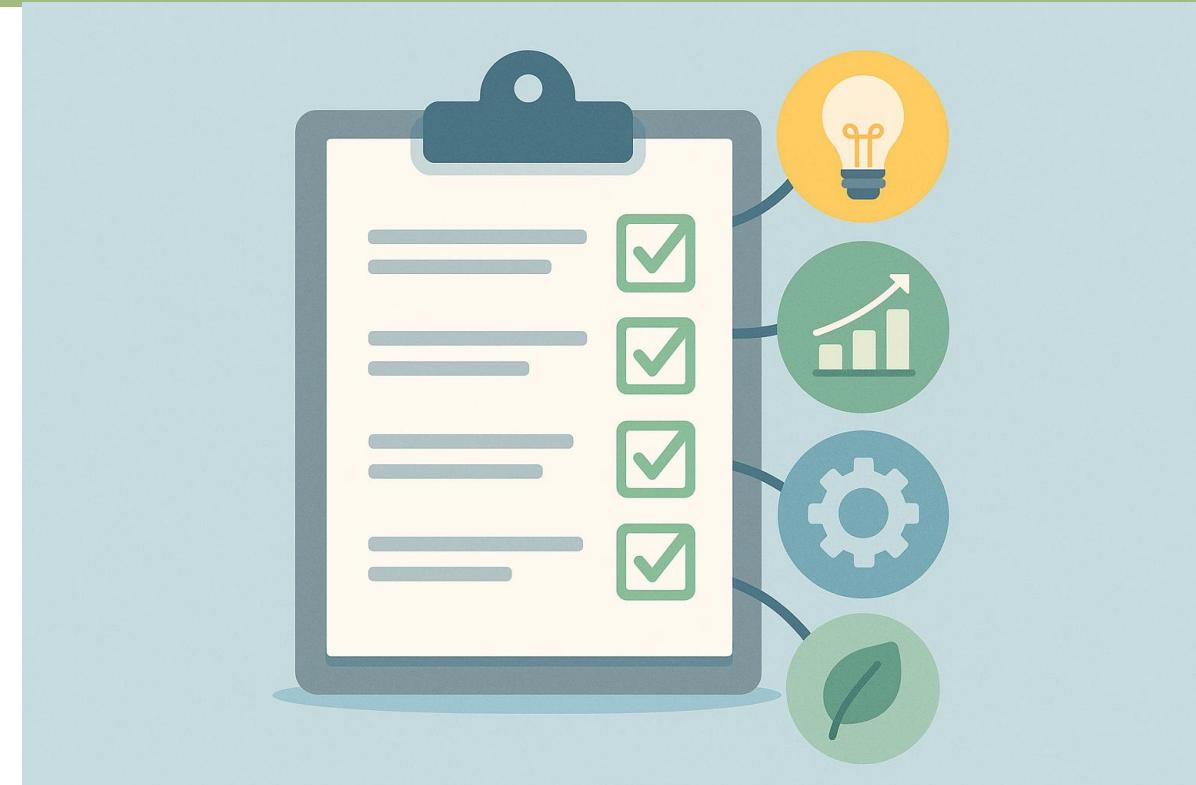


# Project Steps



# 1. Identify and Prioritize Ordinance Topics

1. List provided from City, based on Climate Action Plan
2. Discussed list and priorities with Lewis on 12/23
3. Prioritized topics based on these factors:
  - Have existing model ordinances we can use for examples
  - Are likely to have a strong impact on GHG emissions and/or resilience
  - Are relatively feasible to implement
  - Align with zoning update and Climate Action Plan goals



# 1. Identify and Prioritize Ordinance Topics



## Proposed Priority Topics:



EV-ready ordinance and sustainable parking lots



Options for multi-modal development (transit, bike, walk) such as overlay districts



Checklist and incentives for sustainable new or remodeled large buildings (>30,000 sf)



Accessory commercial units and cottage food businesses



Tree preservation ordinance on private property



Food production activities on private property and community gardens

***Question for Steering Committee: Do these make sense? What is missing?***



## 2. Model ordinance review and cataloguing



### Process

#### **1. Gather model ordinances**

1. Review authoritative sources from organizations such as GPI, ICMA
2. Collect full ordinance text, citations, and URLs from strong model peer cities in WI, IA, MN

#### **2. Select a “Base City” ordinance for each topic that offers:**

1. Clear language and enforceability
2. Proven implementation success
3. Compatibility with La Crosse’s zoning framework

#### **3. Analyze legal consistency with WI statutes and current La Crosse policy**

#### **4. Build ordinance comparison table that includes:**

1. Base ordinance details (city, section numbers, rationale)
2. Required changes for Wis. Stat compliance
3. Optional enhancements from other cities (plug-ins)

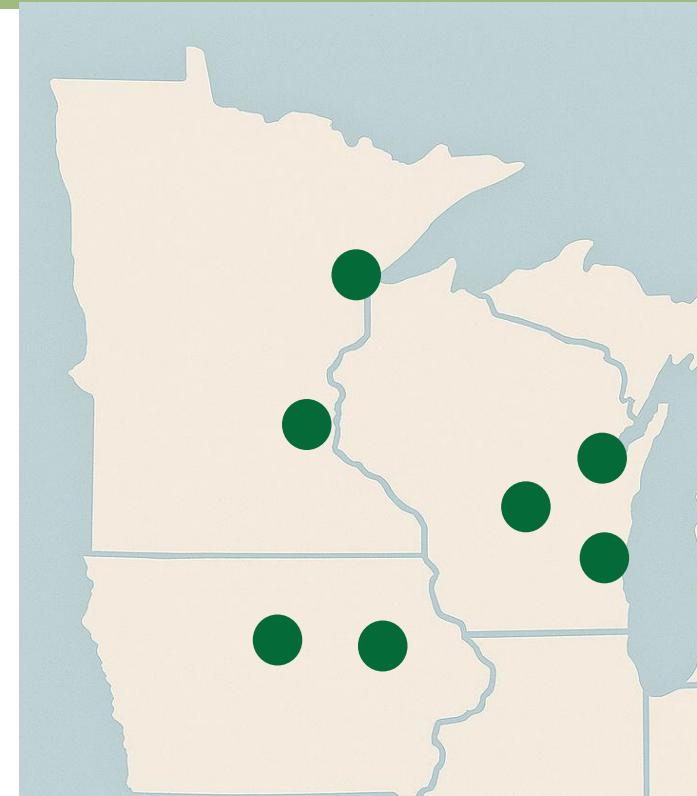
*Comments from  
Steering Committee  
on approach?*



## 3. Peer City Interviews

### Process

1. Select **5–10 Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota cities** that have successfully adopted ordinances on priority topics and had strong models for adoption and identify appropriate staff contacts
2. Develop interview framework and questions
3. **Submit list of questions and peer cities for steering committee review and comment**
4. Schedule and conduct 30-45 minute virtual interviews with 1-3 city staff from peer cities.
5. Compile interview transcripts and notes and summarize for final report.



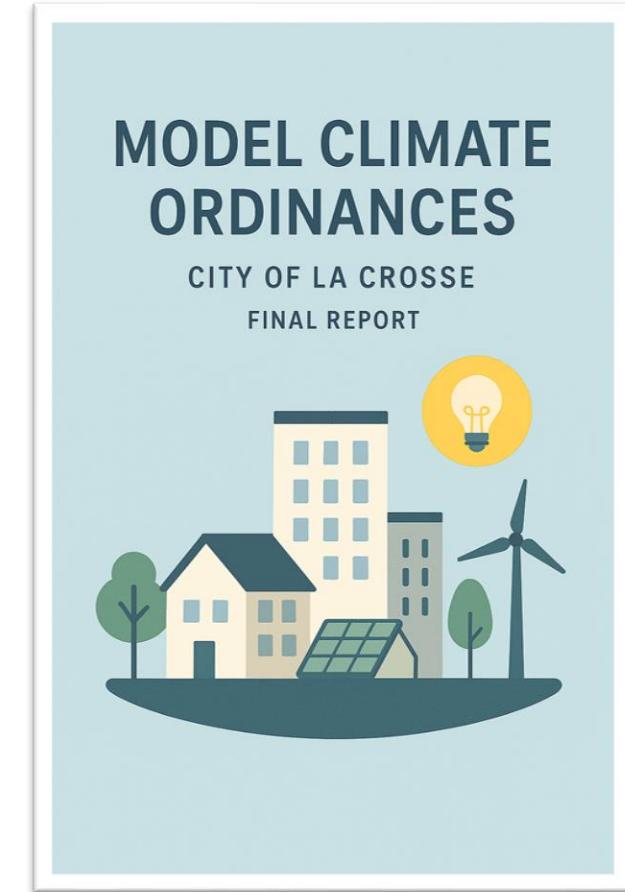
*For illustrative purposes only*



# 4. Final Report and Presentation

## Process

1. Develop draft ordinance summary table and draft report with appendices (interview summaries)
- 2. Steering committee and La Crosse City staff review and comment**
3. Revise documents and prepare final presentation.
- 4. Finalize report and present at monthly steering committee meeting (May)**



*For illustrative purposes only*



Thank You  
Questions?



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