



Climate Action Decision Making Framework

Introduction and Implementation Plan

Utility Commission – February 20, 2024



NEW WESTMINSTER

Recommendation

THAT the Utility Commission endorse the proposed Climate Action Decision Making Framework.

Purpose of the Framework

Provide a **structured decision making approach** to allocating funds from the Climate Action Reserve Fund for initiatives which will enable the City to reach its climate action target of net-zero by 2050.

Fund Objectives:



**GHG
REDUCTION**

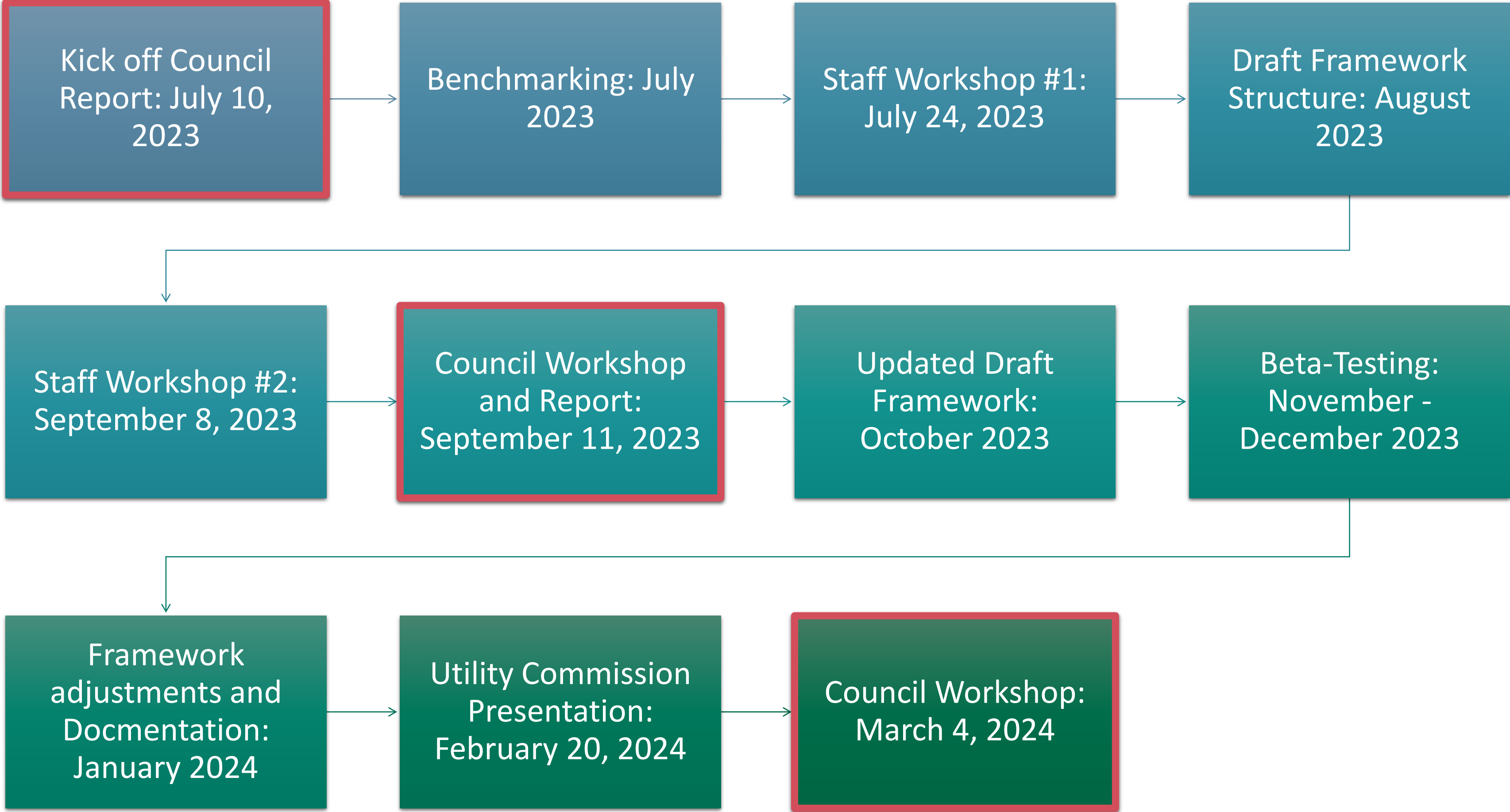


**CLIMATE
RESILIENT
ASSETS**



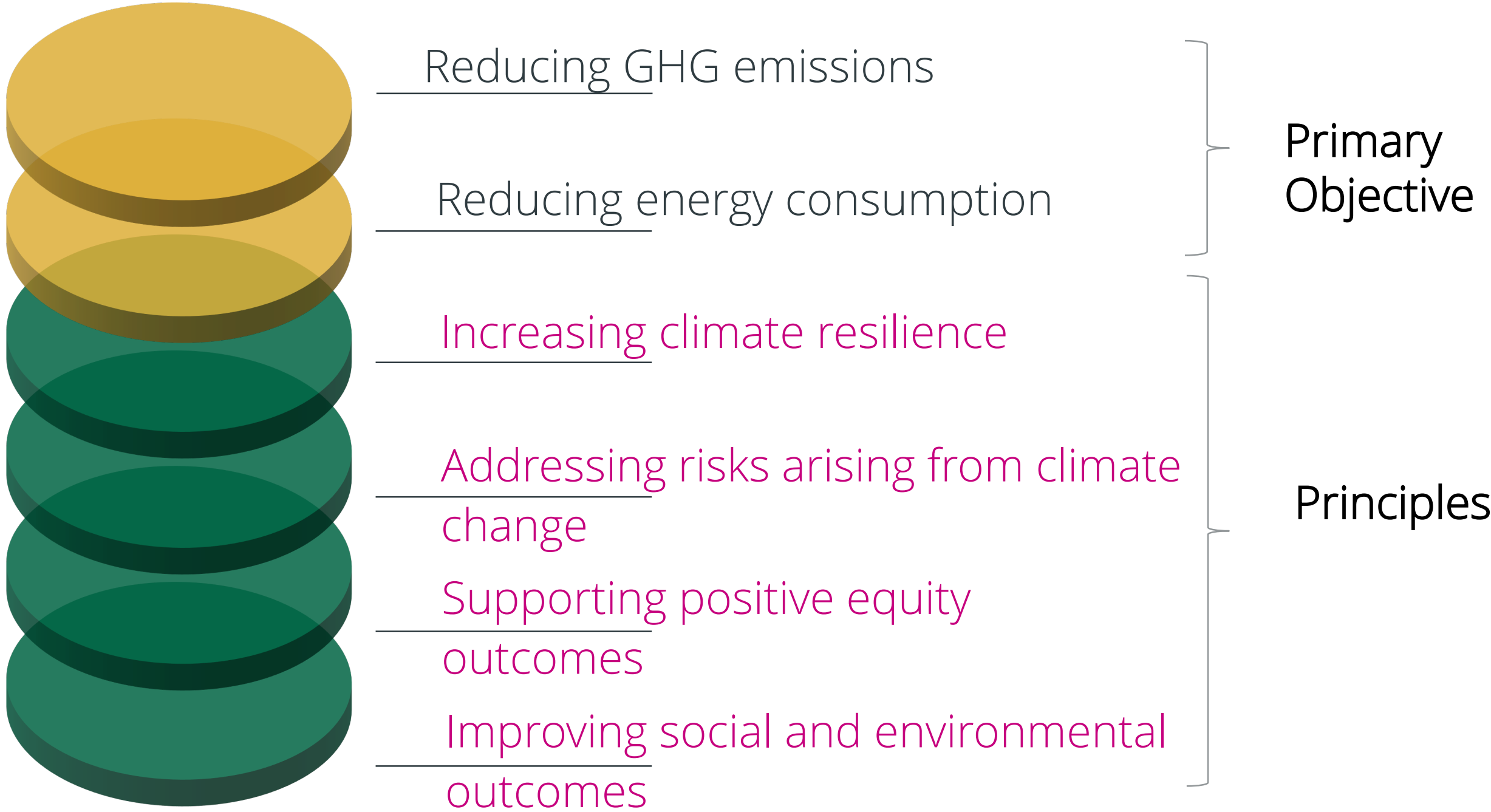
**FORWARD
LOOKING**

Project Progress



Milestones with **RED** outline have associated Council Reports

Guiding Principles & Additional Considerations



Overview of the Framework

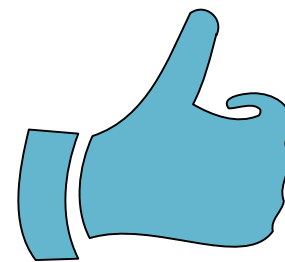
The Framework integrates criteria, rating systems, and weighting systems.



Criteria

Categorized into five types:

- Climate Emergency Criteria
- Pass/Fail Criteria
- Primary Criteria
- Secondary Criteria
- Other Considerations



Ratings

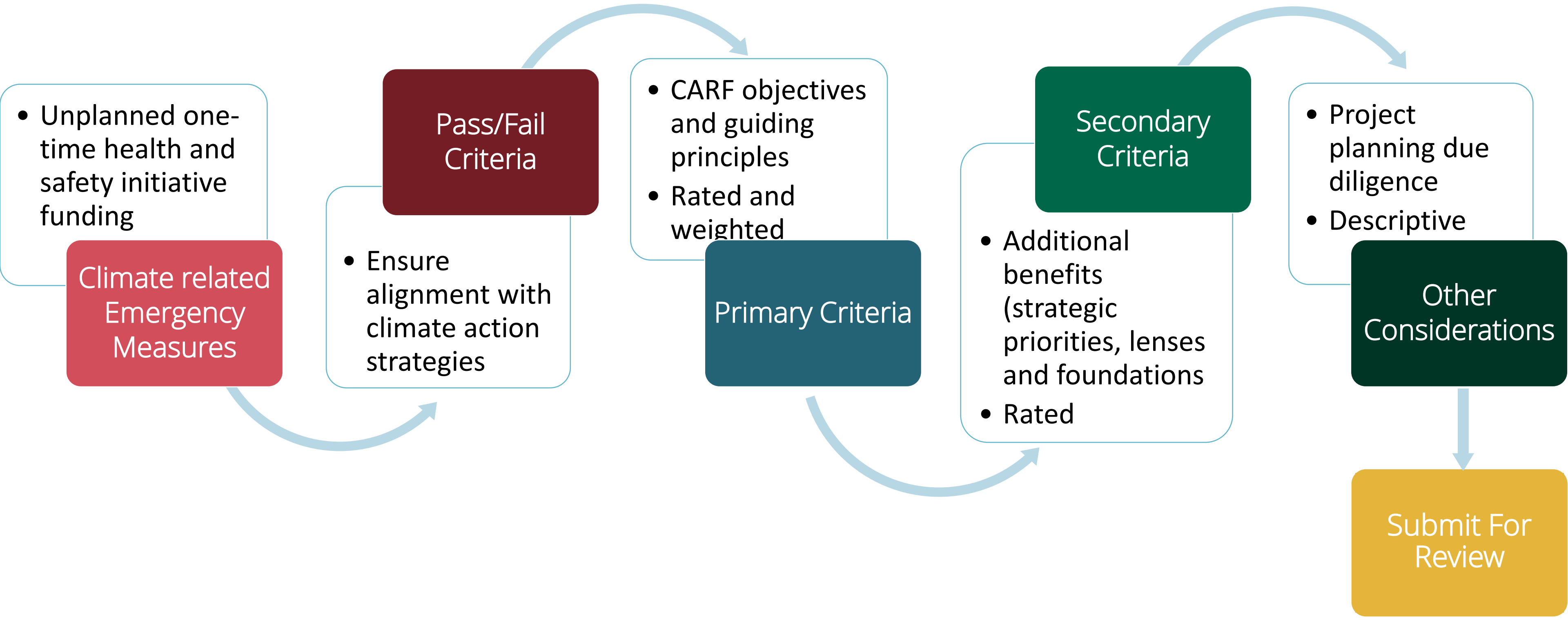
- Ratings applied to some criteria are delineated on High, Medium, and Low



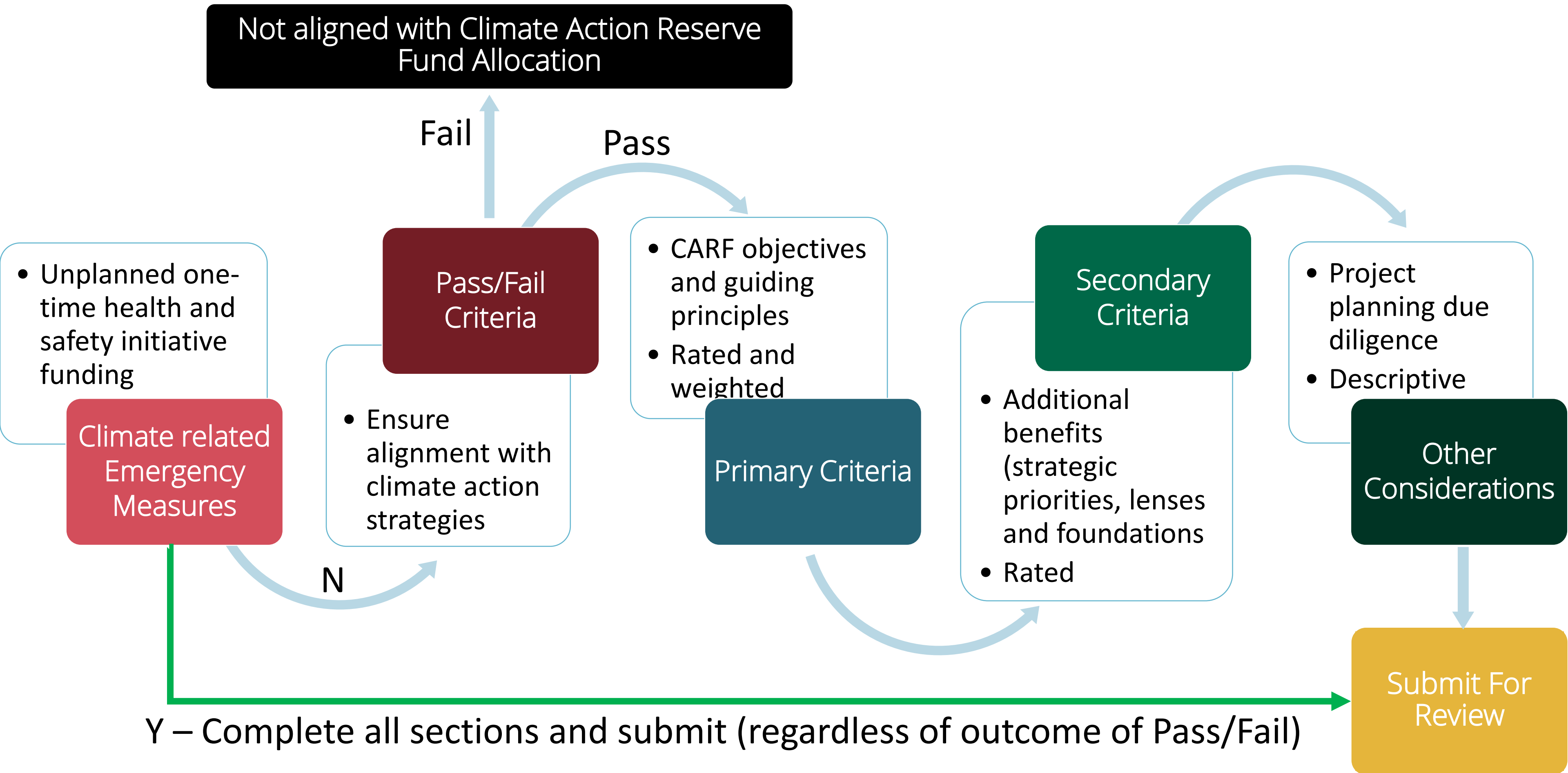
Weightings

- Involve assigning **relative significance** to criteria

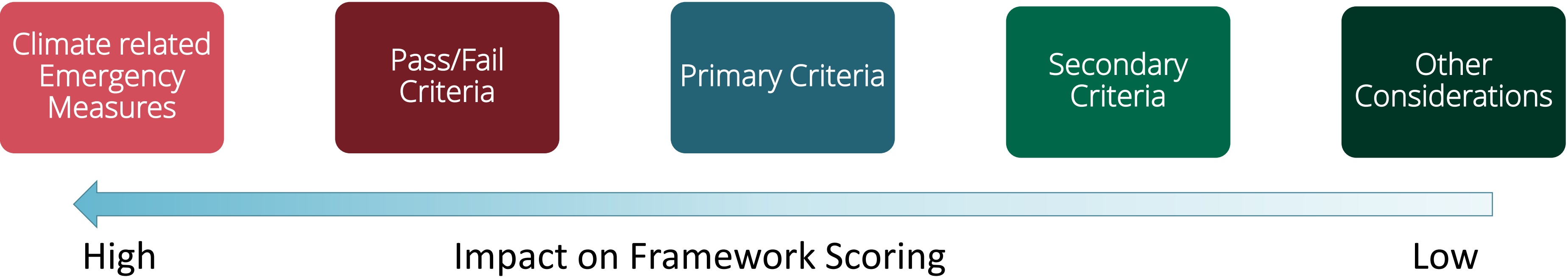
Framework Flow



Framework Flow

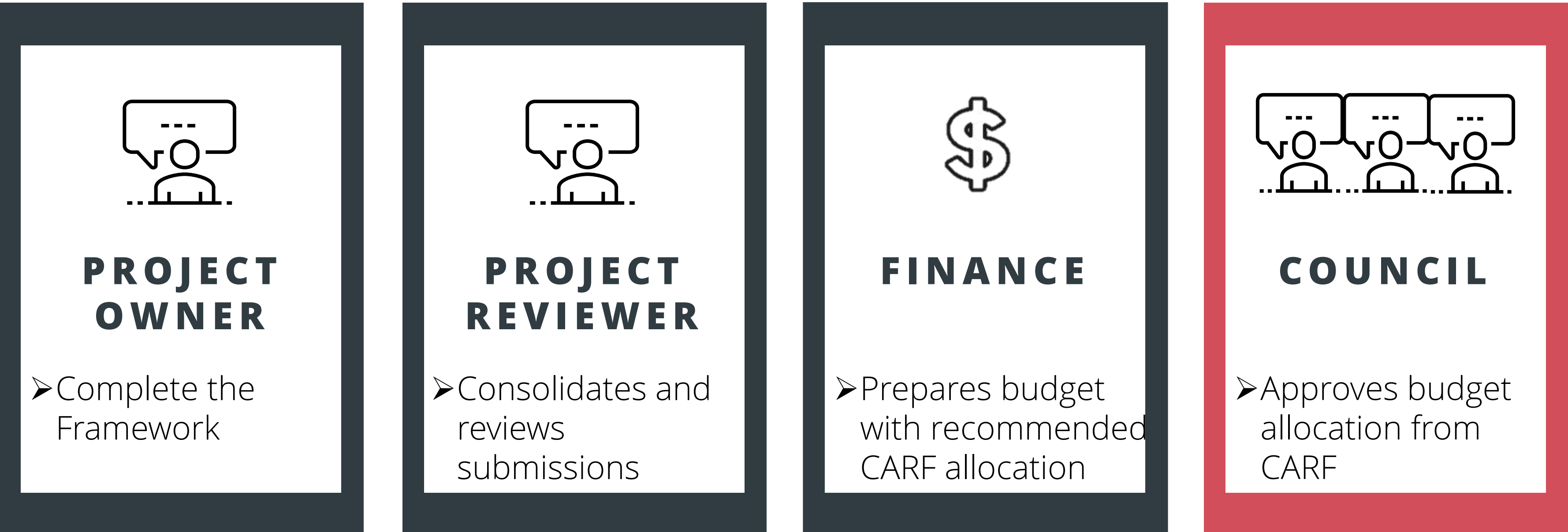


Framework Hierarchy



Roles and Responsibilities

There are three key Staff parties with important roles in enabling the assessment of each project against the criteria framework. The final approval step will be **Council** approval.



Next Steps

Q1 '24

Framework for Adoption 04-Mar-2024: Council Workshop

Draft implementation plan and process flow

Q2 '24

Training and implementation in 2025 budget process

Implementation in 2024 Quarterly Variance (or Q3)

Develop CA Healthy Reserve Policy

Create online intake process

Q3 '24

Ongoing support and implementation in the 2025 budget process

Review Framework submissions for 2025 budget year and potential impact on the CARF

Q4 '24 – Q1 '25

Review and recalibrate the framework

Additional staff training as required

Recommendation and Discussion

THAT the Utility Commission endorse the proposed Climate Action Decision Making Framework.

Questions for Discussion:

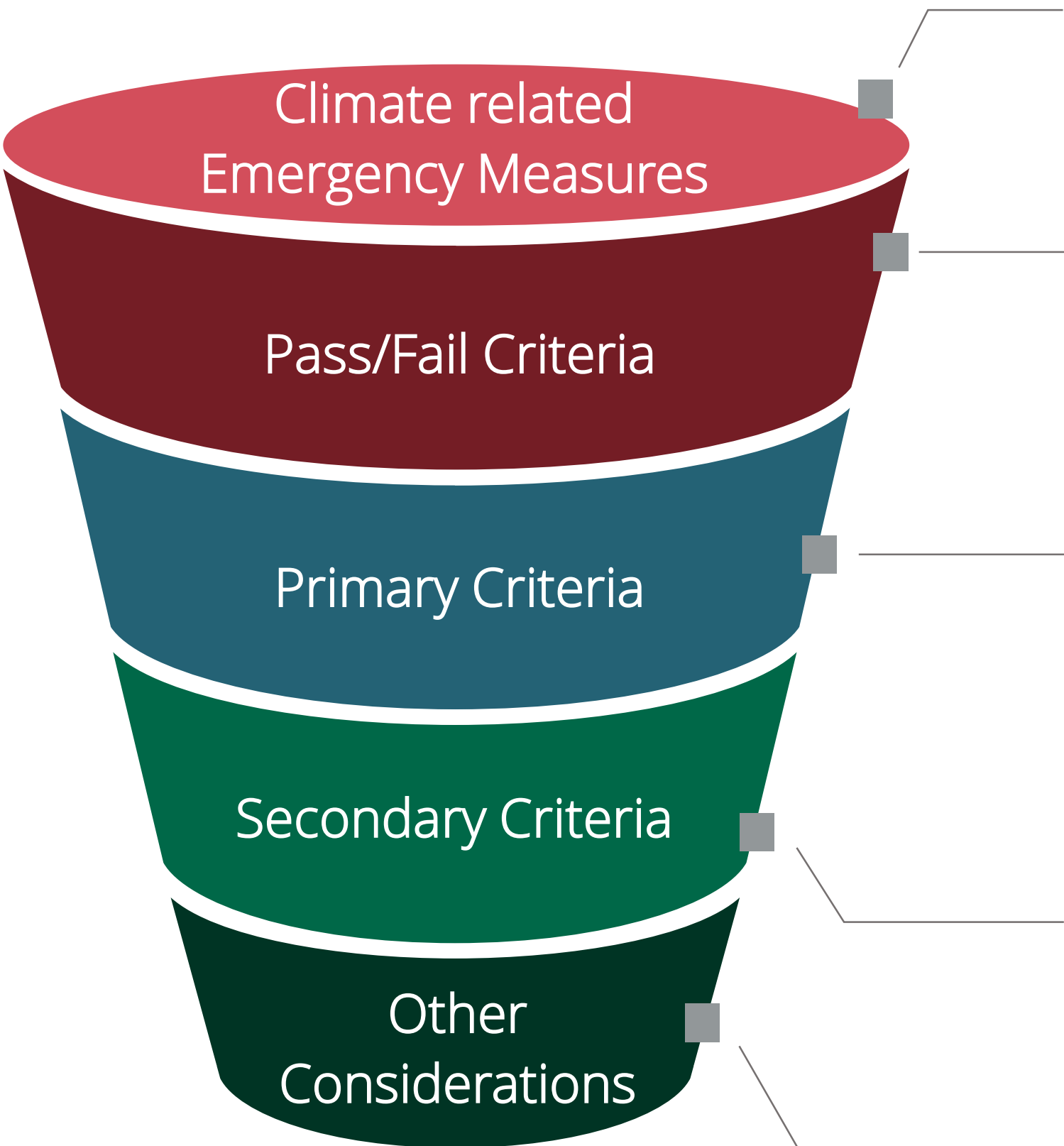
Does the Commission believe the Framework sufficiently supports climate oriented decision making and that the Commission does not need to a formal role in the use of the Framework?

If not, what role should the Commission play in the review of Climate Action Reserve Fund allocation resulting from the implementation of the Framework and why?

APPENDIX : Elements of the Framework

Climate Action Decision Making Framework

Climate Action Framework Overview



Climate related Emergency Measures

- Address an isolated emergency and critical health and safety risk arising from a climate change hazard

Pass/Fail

- City's climate action strategies
- GHG reduction from base case OR Critical enabler

Primary Criteria

- Extent of emission reductions
 - Relative
 - Absolute
- Operational cost
- Capital cost
- Climate Equity
- Improving health and safety and resiliency for citizens

Secondary Criteria

- Council strategic priorities
- DEIAR
- Reconciliation
- Environment
- Organizational Effectiveness
- Community interest

Other Considerations

- Internal resource and capacity
- Recent investments in similar initiatives
- Jurisdictional impacts
- Additional funding
- Urgency