

September 12, 2023

# Building Energy and Water Scoring (Benchmarking) Update and Next Steps

**Brian Tholl**

Energy Services Supervisor

**Katherine Bailey**

Energy Services Project Manager



**ENERGY STAR® Progress & Goals Report**

LEARN MORE AT [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov)

**96**

**215 NM**

Primary Property Type: Office  
Gross Floor Area (ft<sup>2</sup>): 72,000  
Built: 1999

Property Address:  
215 NM  
215 north mason street  
fort collins, Colorado 80524

For Year Ending: June 30, 2016  
Date Generated: June 13, 2017

Property ID: 1274576

ENERGY STAR®  
Score<sup>1</sup>

1. The ENERGY STAR score is a 1-100 assessment of a building's energy efficiency as compared with similar buildings nationwide, adjusting for climate and business activity.

## Strategic Objective: Environmental Health

- 4.1 - Intensify efforts to meet 2030 climate, energy and 100% renewable electricity goals that are centered in equity and improve community resilience



- Big Move 6: Efficient, Emissions Free Buildings: Everyone lives and works in healthy energy and water efficient buildings, which transition to become emissions free.

## Policy Development

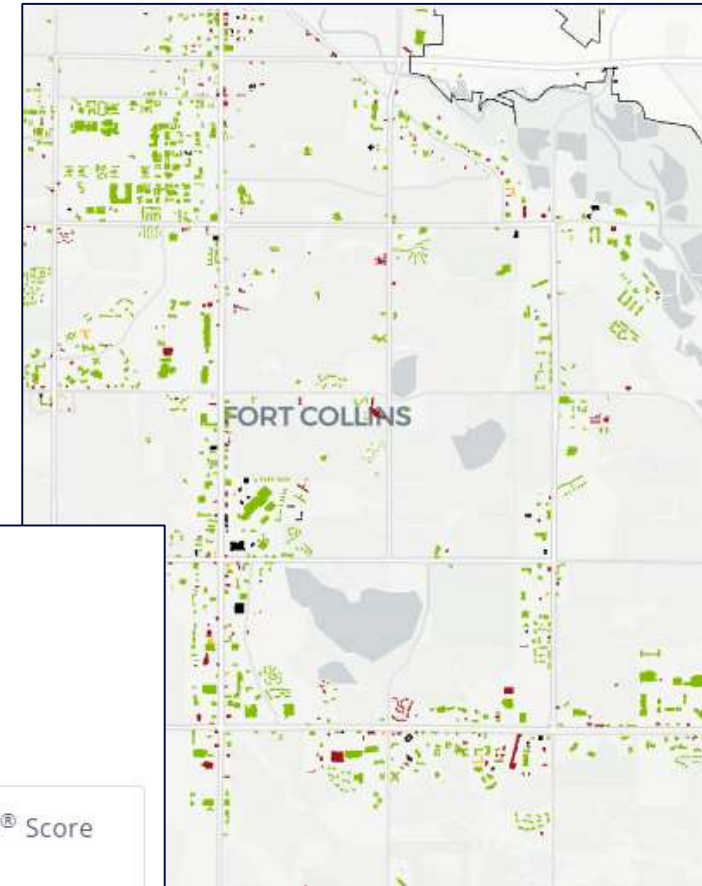
- 2016 City Energy Grant Project
  - Funded dedicated Energy Advisor role and pilot project for 12 months
  - Tailored set of policies and tools to improve building energy performance
- 2017-2018 Benchmarking Task Force
  - Community experts developed policy recommendations





## Benchmarking and Transparency

- What is Benchmarking?
  - Adopted by City Council December 2018
  - Requires benchmarking and transparency, commercial and multifamily buildings 5,000 sq. ft. and above
    - Citations sent annually for buildings out of compliance
  - 2023 first full year of all covered buildings
- Why are we doing it?
  - Energy reductions
  - Identifying opportunities for investment
  - Market transparency for consumers
  - Market recognition of building performance



Office  
 222 Laporte Avenue  
 Fort Collins, 80521  
 Building ID FC2263  
 37,500 ft<sup>2</sup>  
 Built in 2016  
 Status - In Compliance

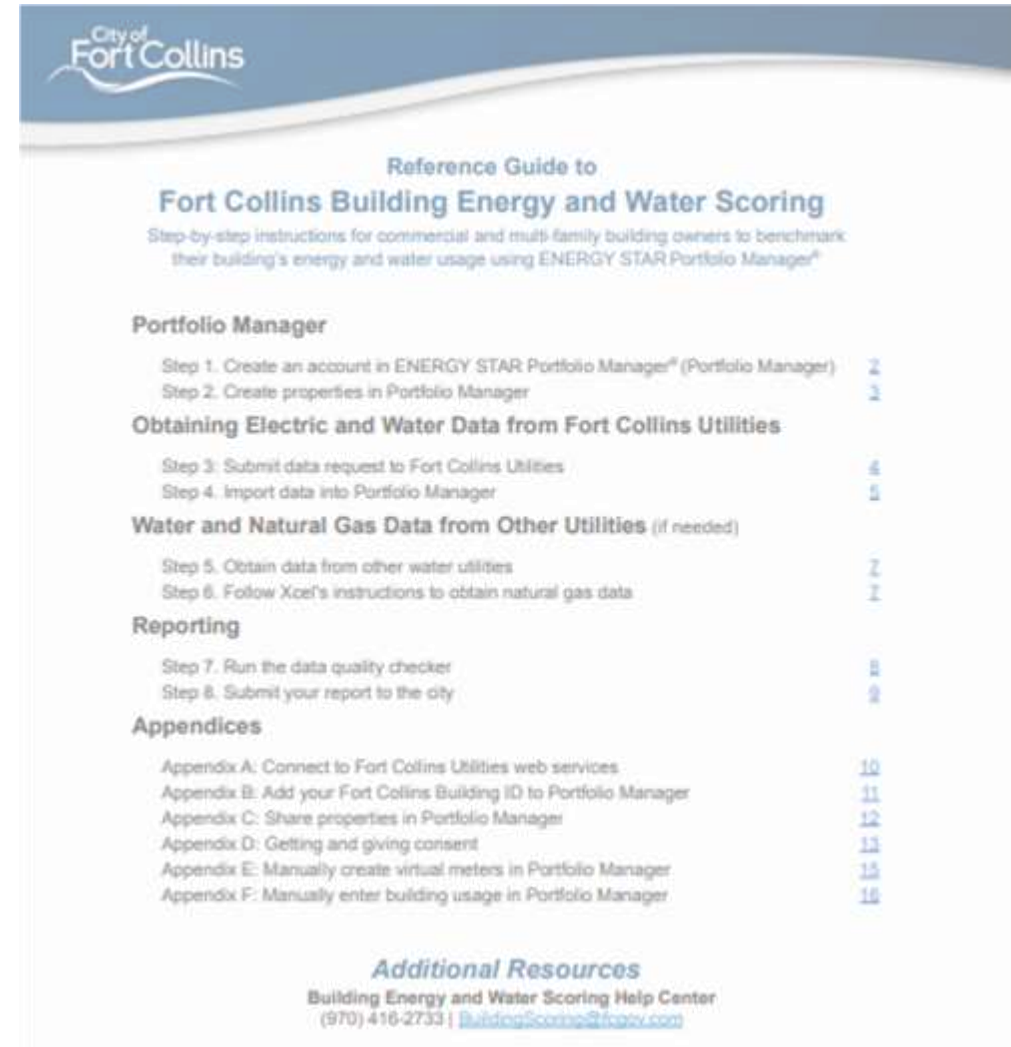
ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Score  
**98**

0 ————— 100

**Building Score: 1 to 100**

## Support and Tools for Compliance

- Step-by-step guide
- How-to video series
- Live and recorded trainings
- Help Center staff with screen share capability
- Automated Utility data transfer
- Option for paid compliance
  - Account can be transferred to building owners for future years



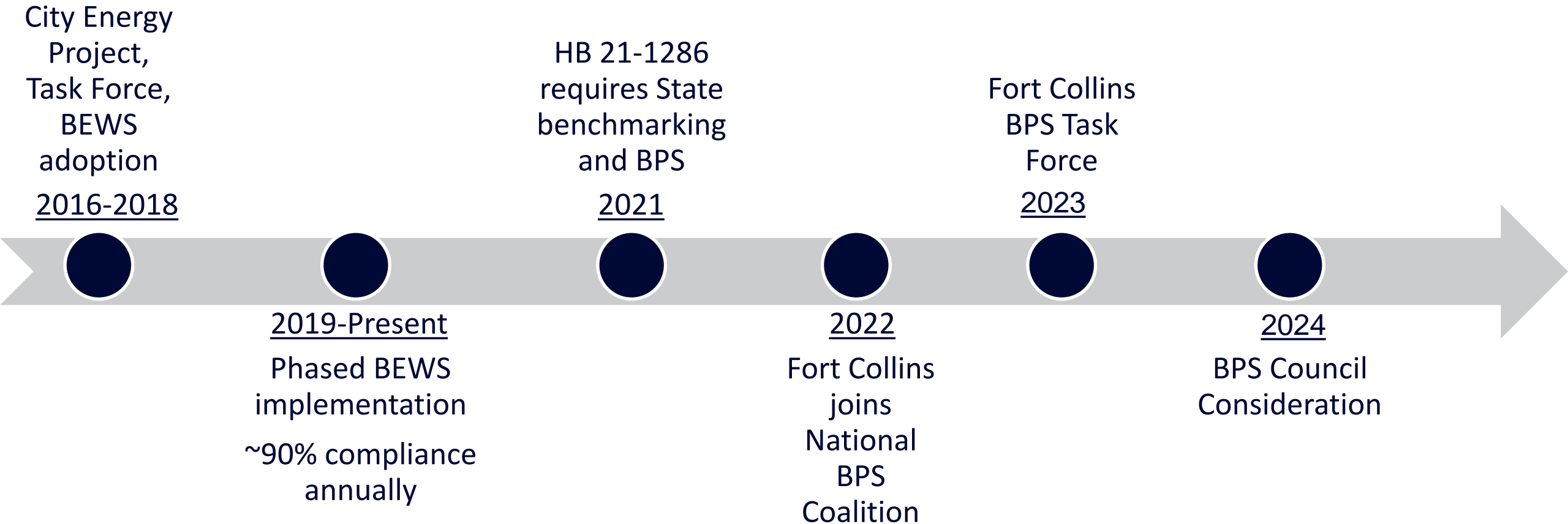
**Reference Guide to  
Fort Collins Building Energy and Water Scoring**  
Step-by-step instructions for commercial and multi-family building owners to benchmark their building's energy and water usage using ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager®

<b>Portfolio Manager</b>	
Step 1. Create an account in ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager® (Portfolio Manager)	2
Step 2. Create properties in Portfolio Manager	3
<b>Obtaining Electric and Water Data from Fort Collins Utilities</b>	
Step 3. Submit data request to Fort Collins Utilities	4
Step 4. Import data into Portfolio Manager	5
<b>Water and Natural Gas Data from Other Utilities (if needed)</b>	
Step 5. Obtain data from other water utilities	7
Step 6. Follow Xcel's instructions to obtain natural gas data	7
<b>Reporting</b>	
Step 7. Run the data quality checker	8
Step 8. Submit your report to the city	8
<b>Appendices</b>	
Appendix A: Connect to Fort Collins Utilities web services	10
Appendix B: Add your Fort Collins Building ID to Portfolio Manager	11
Appendix C: Share properties in Portfolio Manager	12
Appendix D: Getting and giving consent	13
Appendix E: Manually create virtual meters in Portfolio Manager	15
Appendix F: Manually enter building usage in Portfolio Manager	16

**Additional Resources**  
Building Energy and Water Scoring Help Center  
(970) 416-2733 | [BuildingScores@fcgov.com](mailto:BuildingScores@fcgov.com)

## Community Benefits

- 3<sup>rd</sup> party program evaluation
  - 2.4 - 4% of buildings energy savings directly attributable to Benchmarking
  - 8,876 MWh annual community savings
    - Equivalent to annual use of over 1,200 homes
    - Over \$950,000 in direct Utility savings
- Program has compounding impacts
  - Drives more engagement and savings for rebate programs
  - Increases awareness on both building operations and community goals



Benchmarking tracks building use, Building Performance Standards requires efficiency targets be met







City of  
**Fort Collins**

Questions

# Backup slides for Q&A

- Adopted 1018, phased implementation started in 2019
  - Commercial and multifamily buildings 5,000 SF and greater
  - 2023 first full year with ~1400 covered buildings, ~1,000 individual owners
- Grace periods
  - One-year one-time grace period afforded each building
- Waivers
  - Various waivers allowed including Unique Circumstances
- Citation timeline
  - Issued 60 days after compliance deadline
  - Partnership with Municipal Court

## Citations

- Grace periods
  - One-year one-time grace period afforded each building
- Waivers
  - Various waivers allowed including Unique Circumstances
- Citation timeline
  - Issued 60 days after compliance deadline (sent early August)
  - Partnership with Municipal Court

Year	Building Count	% Compliance	Citations issued for previous year
2020	335	93.50%	0
2021	815	92.80%	16; 3 suspended, 12 default
2022	1341	89.1%	39; 2 suspended, 35 default

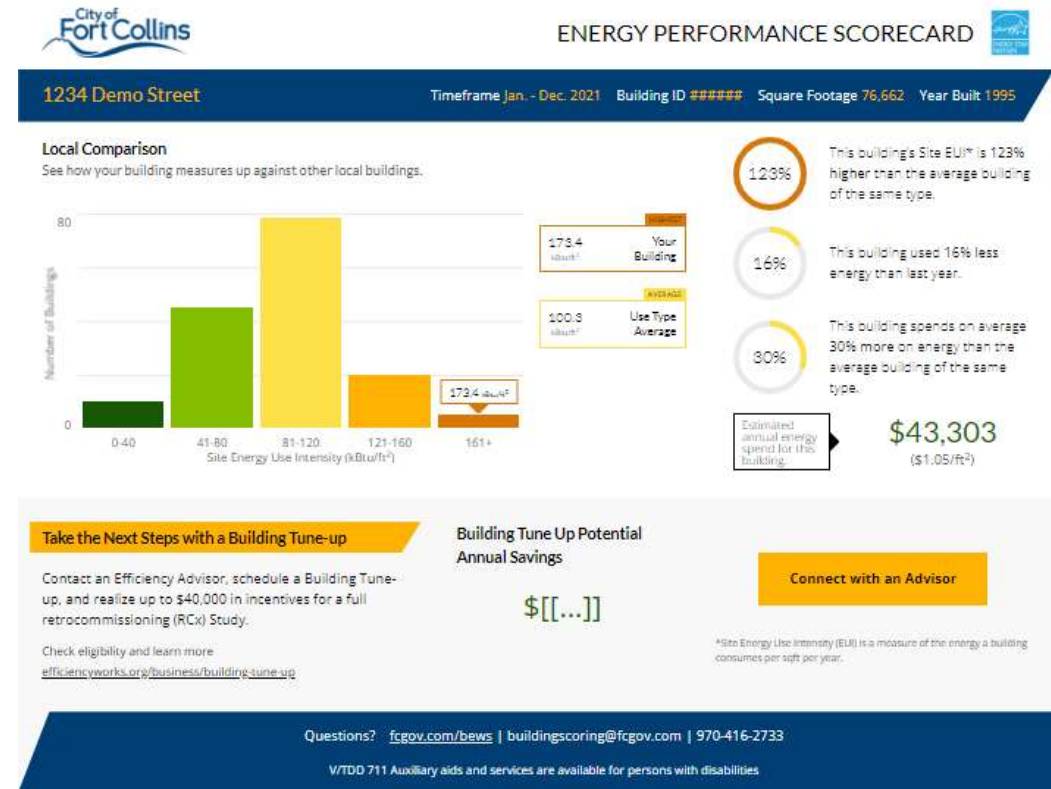


## Annual Outreach

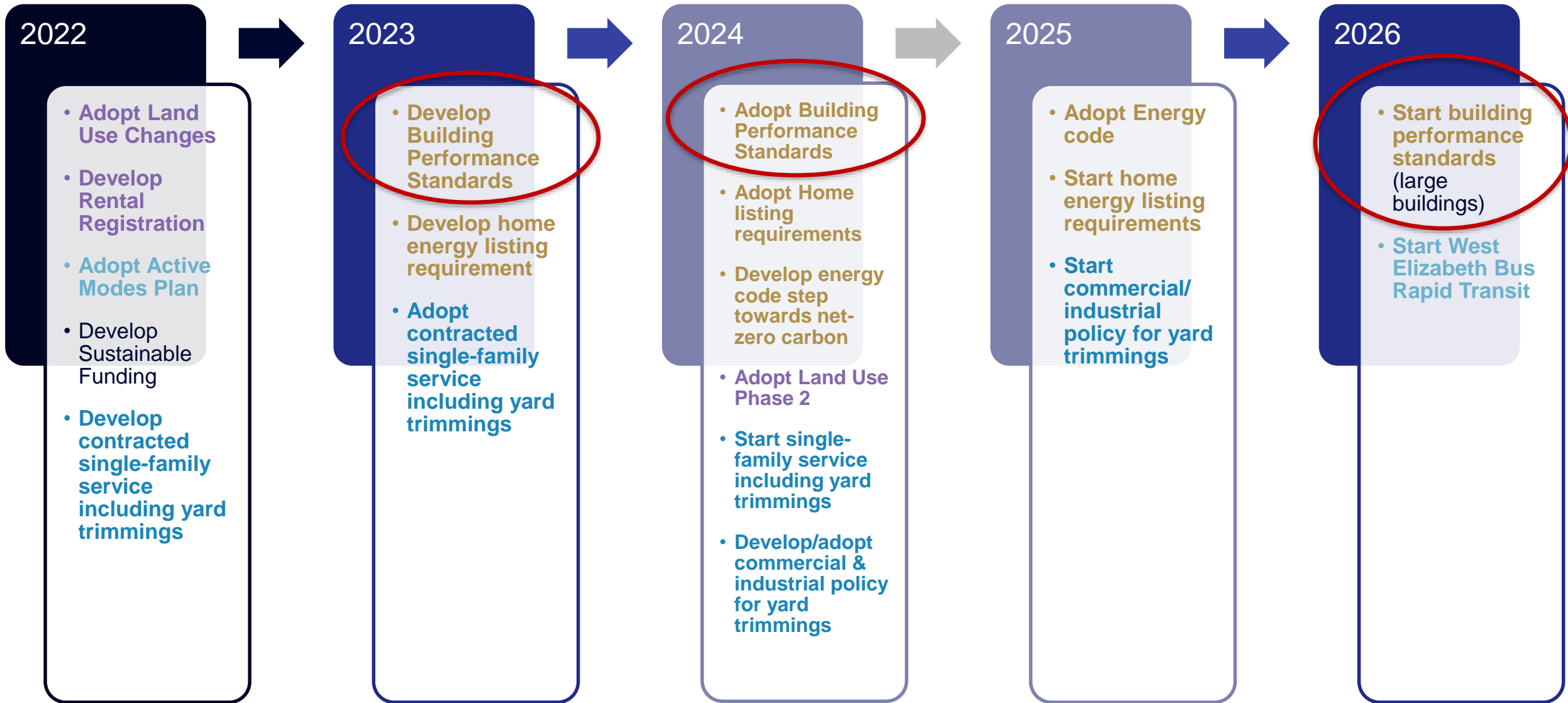
- Email and physical mailers
  - 6 mailers prior to citations annually
- Phone calls
  - 2 rounds annually
- Score cards

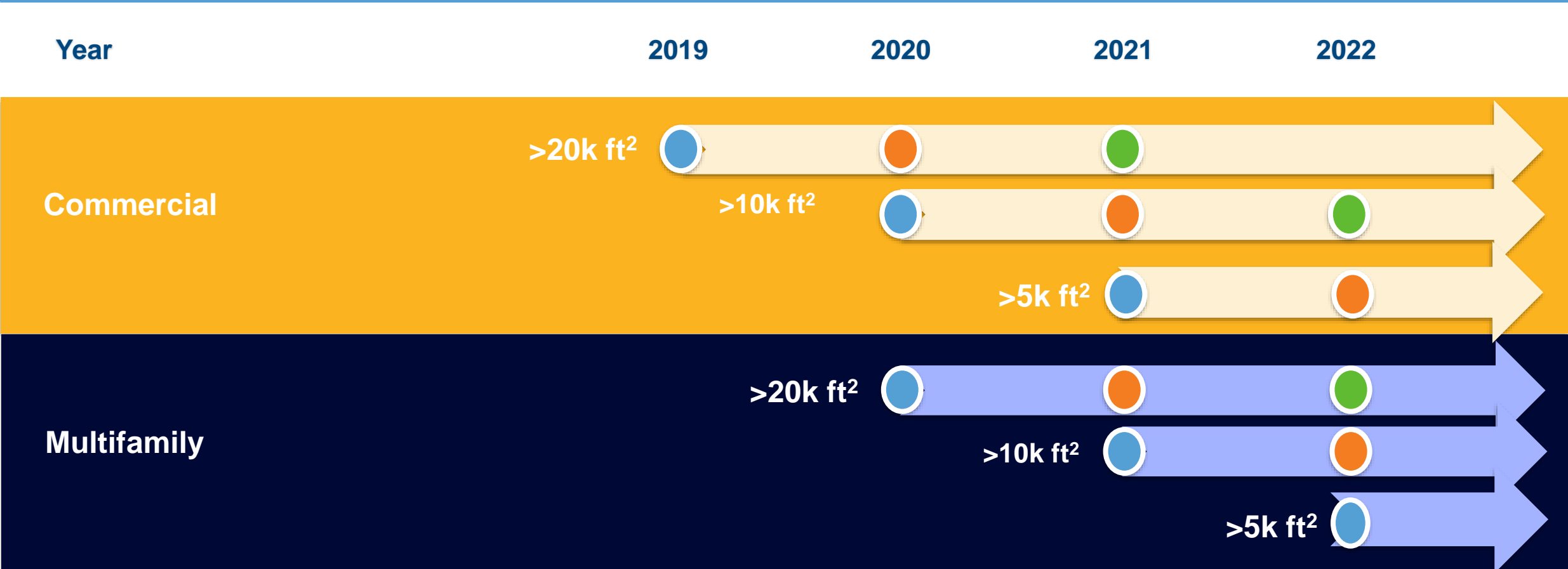
## Quick Stats

- Q2, 2023: Help Center made 660 calls and sent 5,721 emails supporting 1,168 buildings.
- On average, it took building owners 4.9 days to come into compliance from the BEWS Help Center’s first communication to, or with, a building contact.









● Notifications → Data Collection

● Annual Report Due

● Public Display of Score

1,452 total buildings under 5k covered by Ordinance in 2023