



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Chesapeake Bay Program: Beyond 2025

High-level process

- **Phase 1-** Steering Committee develops recommendations on the scope & breadth of what should be undertaken
- **Phase 2-** Execute plan outlined in the new Executive Council charge



What did the Phase 1 steering committee recommend moving forward?



- The *2014 Watershed Agreement* should be amended.
- Simplify and streamline partnership structure and processes

Why should the Watershed Agreement be amended?

- We're making progress!
- We're not pressing 'pause'.
- Amendments can help close the gap.
- The *Watershed Agreement* was built for change.

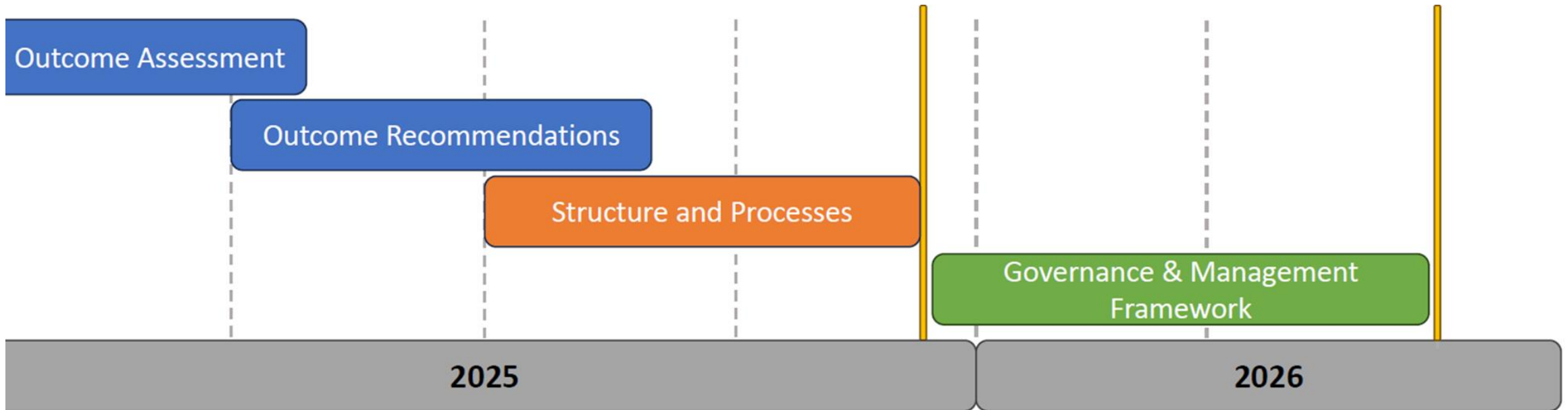


Science. Restoration.
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Phase 2

- New Executive Council charge issued at their December meeting, directing the Program to amend the Agreement and simplify/streamline the partnership



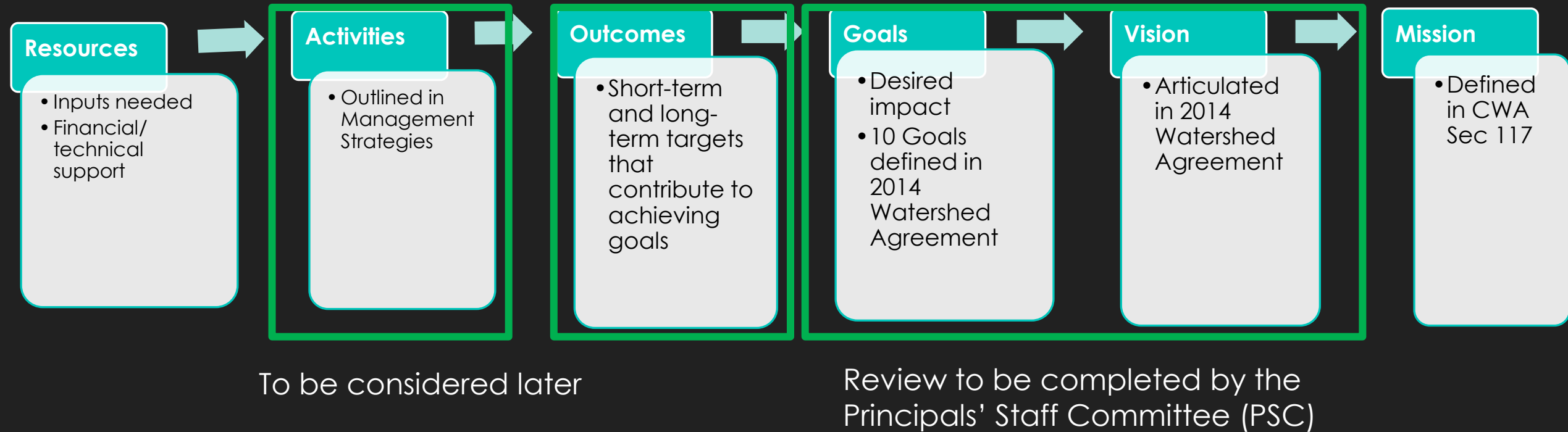
EXCERPT FROM THE NEW EC CHARGE:

While not all outcomes will need revision, some reviews will likely result in **consolidating, reducing, updating, removing, replacing, or adding new outcomes**. Furthermore, it is the intent of the Chesapeake Executive Council, **that these changes reflect:**

- A renewed and greater emphasis on **engaging all communities** of the watershed as active stewards of a healthy and resilient Chesapeake Bay and its watershed;
- Our mandate to address water quality **and living resources** throughout the Bay and watershed;
- **Elevating conservation** as a key pillar of the Chesapeake Bay Program, alongside science, restoration, and partnership;
- A grounding in the most recent scientific understandings and issues that have emerged since the current Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement was signed in 2014;
- Goals and outcomes that are **measurable and time bound**. Time frames should be sufficient to accomplish the outcomes as quickly as possible. In particular, our regulated nutrient and sediment load reductions, especially those within non-point sources;
- Acknowledgement that our scientific understanding is continuously evolving and that our efforts need to constantly adapt accordingly; and
- The fact that while each partner shares a common goal, we are all approaching this goal from different perspectives, challenges, and opportunities.

Outcome Assessment

Review to be completed by Workgroups, recommendations made by the Management Board to the PSC for decision



2025 Timeline for Agreement Revision (tentative)

- Jan-March: Outcome Assessment. Management Board decides whether to recommend consolidating, reducing, updating, removing, replacing or adding new outcome. PSC reviews agreement for additional revisions
- April-June: Outcome Revision. Management Board recommends any new/revised outcome language. PSC completes any additional revisions on Agreement
- July-Sept: Public feedback and revisions
- End of 2025- Executive Council to review recommended revisions to the Agreement and its outcomes

Outcome Assessment



What advice do you have for the Management Board on how to consolidate, reduce, update, remove, replace or add new outcomes?

Outcomes vs Outputs vs. Indicators

- **Outputs:** Tangible deliverables and actions that contribute to achieving Outcomes.
 - **Outcomes:** The desired impacts and changes achieved over the short, medium or long-term
 - **Indicators:** Measures used as markers of success
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SMART Outcomes

- Specific
- **Measurable**
- Achievable
- Realistic
- **Time-bound**

- SMARTIE outcomes?
 - Inclusive
 - Equitable

Key Dates (tentative)

- Feb 13th: Outcome assessment recommendations due to the Management Board (2-pagers for each Outcome)
- Feb 27th: Outcome review meeting with the Management Board (likely opportunity for “public” input)
- March 27th: Management Board meeting to discuss new proposed outcomes, develop recommendations on “disposition” of existing outcomes
- May 7-8: Management Board meeting to finalize recommended outcome revisions



Questions?