

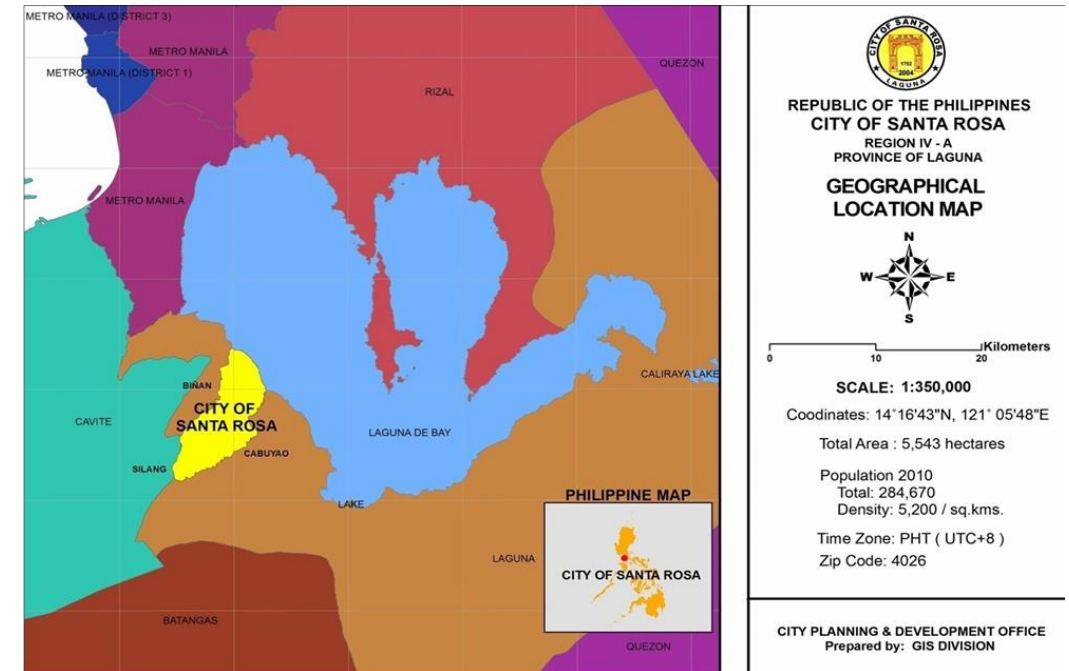
City of Santa Rosa's Voluntary Local Review (VLR) Report

Localizing the 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development

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City Vice Mayor

The City of Santa Rosa in Context

- 14°16'43" N, 121°05'48" E
- Approximately 40 kms South of Metro Manila
- Formerly Barrio Bukol, became a Municipality in 1972 and a city on July 10, 2004
- First Class Component City with 18
*Barangays
- Population of approximately 500,000+ in 2025



***Barangay** – the basic political unit in the Philippine Administrative System, functioning as the frontline of government at the community level.

The City of Santa Rosa in Context continued

- Rapidly growing economic hub
- Dubbed as “Investment Capital of South Luzon”, “Lion City of the South”, “Next Wave City”
- Houses multinational corporations (Toyota, Coca-Cola), BPO industries (AFNI, iQor) and major developments (Ayala Land’s ‘eco-city’, Eton City, Enchanted Kingdom)



Selected SDGs for Santa Rosa's VLR

Focus Areas - Five Pillars of the 2030 Agenda:

- **People** - SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality)
- **Prosperity** - SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)
- **Planet** - SDG 12 (Sustainable Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action)
- **Peace** - SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions)
- **Partnerships** - SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)

Rationale: Chosen to enhance human capital and environmental sustainability, underpinned by peace and collaborative partnerships



Key Results in terms of progress for the SDGs

People Pillar

- Zero Hunger (SDG 2) - A decrease in hunger incidence from 2018-2023 from 70.5 to 43.7 per 100,000
- Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3) A sustained low Maternal Mortality Ratio (less than 70 per 100,000 live births)
- Quality Education (SDG 4) - Completion rates high across all level with Elementary (Primary) education rates consistently above 96%

Hunger Incidence in the City: A Path Toward Zero Hunger

Hunger Incidence in the City
(2018-2023)

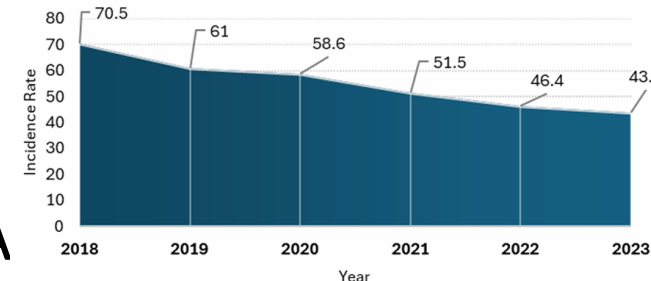


Figure 11. Hunger Incidence in the City (2018 - 2023)
Source: City of Santa Rosa Nutrition Office

Maternal Mortality Ratio Per 1,000 Live Births (2019-2023)



Figure 18. Maternal Mortality Ratio Per 1,000 Live Births (2019-2023)
Source: City of Santa Rosa Health Office

Completion Rate

Completion Rate of Primary and Secondary Education of the City (2018-2023)



Figure 28. Completion Rate for Primary and Secondary Education in the City (2018 - 2023)
Source: City of Santa Rosa DepEd

Key Results in terms of progress for the SDGs

Prosperity and Planet Pillar

- Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11) - A significant increase in trained responders from approximately 200 in 2018 to nearly 600 in 2024
- Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12) - An increase in waste recovery rate from 60% in 2018 to 78% in 2023
- Climate Action (SDG 13) - resource allocation for climate-resilient infrastructure from 300,000 USD in 2019 to 2.3 million by 2023

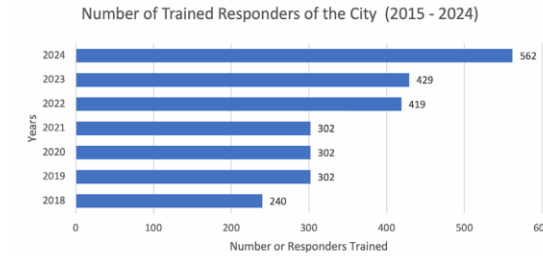


Figure 47. Number of Trained Responders of the City
Source: City of Santa Rosa DRMM

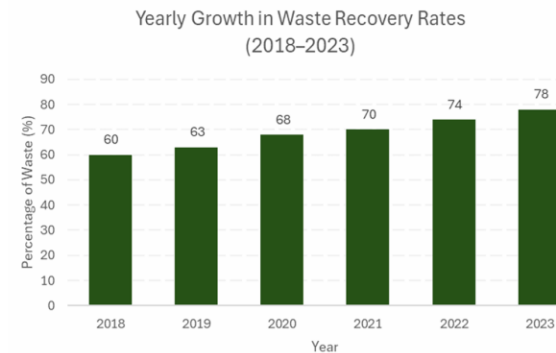


Figure 49. Percentage of Waste Recovered
Source: City of Santa Rosa CENRO

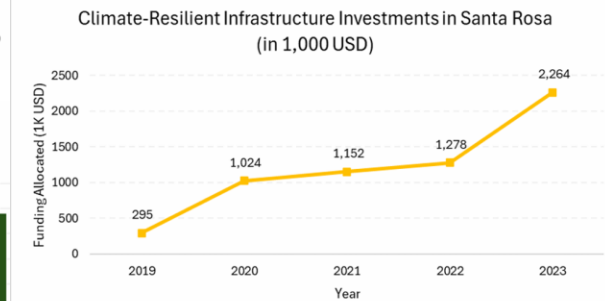


Figure 50. Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Investment of the City
Source: City of Santa Rosa Annual Investment Plan

Key Results in terms of progress for the SDGs

Peace and Partnerships Pillar

- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16) - reduction in overall violent crime rates by 2023 and crime solution efficiency rate that reached 96.3% in 2023
- Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17) – starting from 5 aligned policies in 2018, there was an increase to a total of 56 SDG aligned policies in 2024

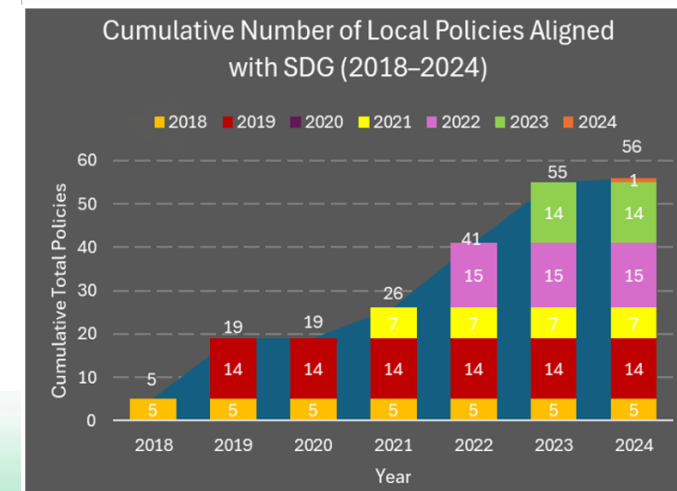
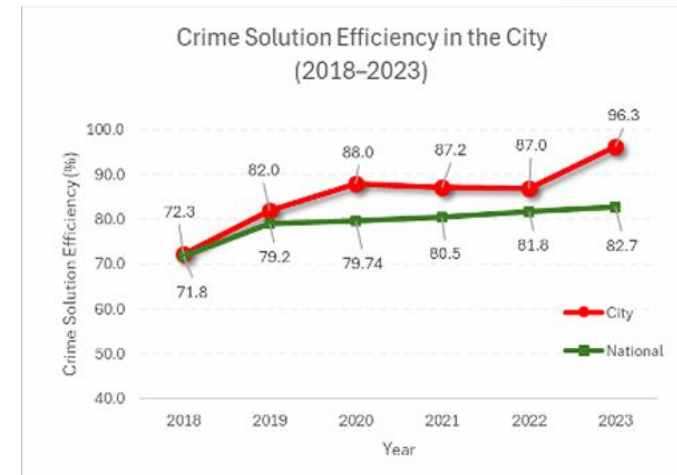
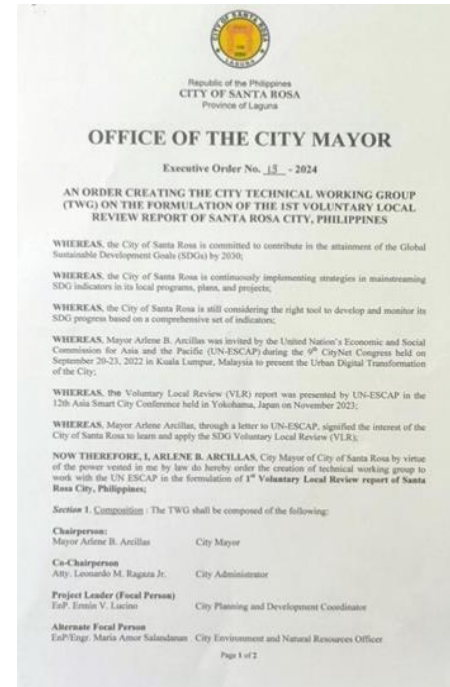


Figure 61. Cumulative Number of Local Policies Aligned with the SDGs
Source: City of Santa Rosa Sanguinang Panglalawigan

VLR Development Process (Key Phases and Dates)

Inception Phase

- Creation of Technical Working Group (TWG): April 2024 (through Executive Order No. 13-2024)
- First VLR Workshop & Identification of Priority SDGs: June 6-7, 2024



VLR Development Process (Key Phases and Dates)

Implementation Phase (Situational Analysis)

- Data Collection: Primary data from government documents, secondary data from city offices, interviews with the TWG
- Qualitative Methods: Face to face interviews (July-November 2024, key informants) Focus Group Discussions (September 27, 2024, at UST Santa Rosa Campus with Barangay Chairpersons
- Quantitative Methods: Historical records, reports, administrative datasets



VLR Development Process (Key Phases and Dates)

Finalization Phase:

- Validation Workshops:
January 22-24, 2025 (with TWG, Barangays, Private Sector, Academe, CSOs)



Technical Working Group

Barangay Chairpersons

Private Sector, Academe, CSOs, Senior, Youth, LGBTQIA+, Fisherfolk

VLR Development Process (Key Phases and Dates)

Follow-up Phase:

- Presentation of the VLR : 12th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (February 2025, Bangkok) and High-Level Political Forum (July 2025, New York)
- VLR Publication
- Official VLR Launching in Santa Rosa September 2025



Challenges and Moving Forward

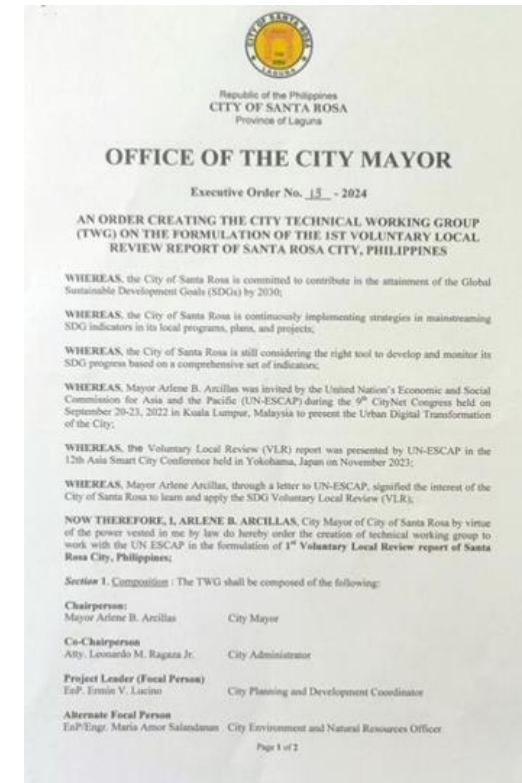
Challenges Identified

- VLR is a new initiative, requiring deeper analysis of the whole system
- Data is available but not centralized
- Need for better coordination and communication between experts and data-supplying offices

Steps in Monitoring Progress on SDG Localization

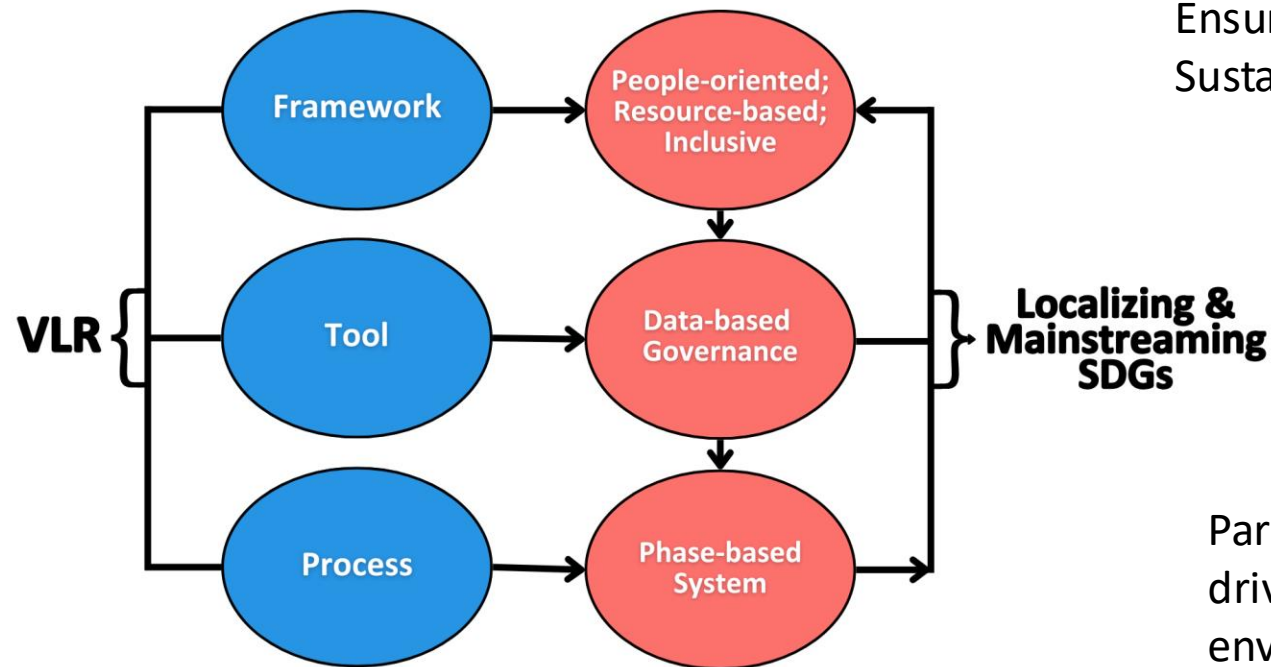
1. Establish Institutional Mechanisms

Led by the City Government, the establishment of an Executive Order (Executive Order No. 13-2024) which strengthens the institutional mechanism for policy implementation by formally creating a Technical Working Group with clear mandates, roles, and coordination protocols among involved agencies.



Steps in Monitoring Progress on SDG Localization

2. Utilize the Triple VLR Model



Ensures local plan alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

Uses key performance indicators, numerical analysis, graphs and tables to visualize commitments

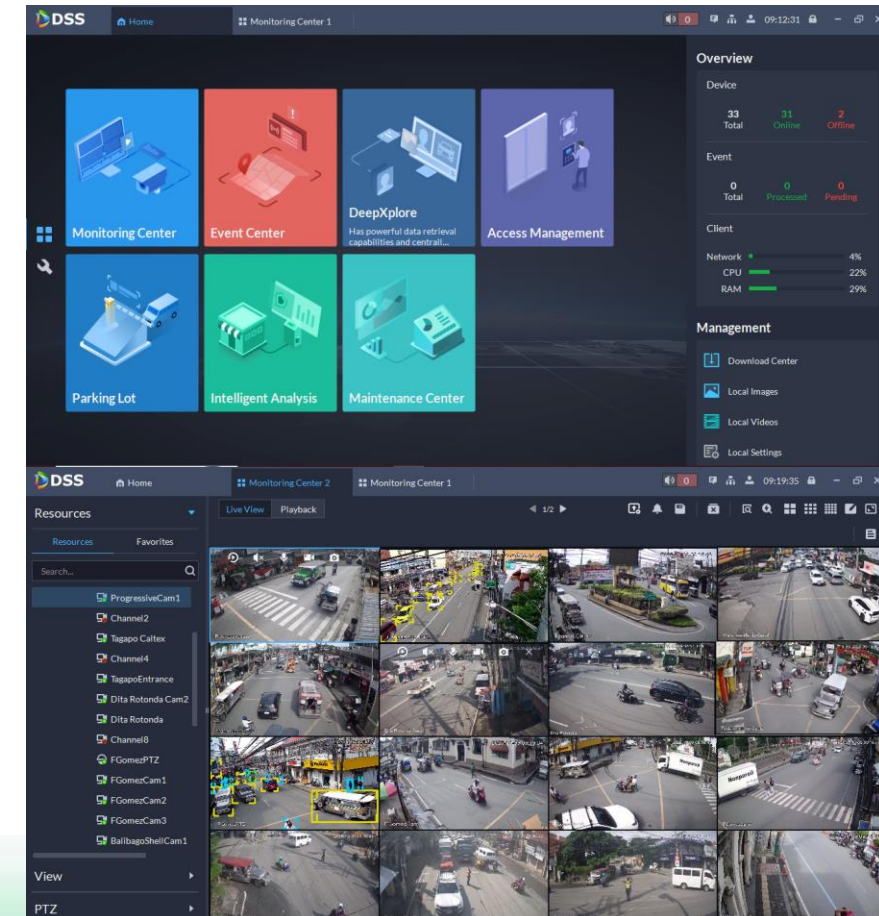
Participatory, consultative, and evidence-driven. Covers socio-cultural, economic, and environmental dimensions

Steps in Monitoring Progress on SDG Localization

3. Systematic Data Collection and Analysis through

- Data Collection
- Data Cleaning and Validation
- Trend Analysis
- Alignment with Global Indicators
- Data Visualization
- Identification of Data Gaps
- Integration of IoTs and AIs

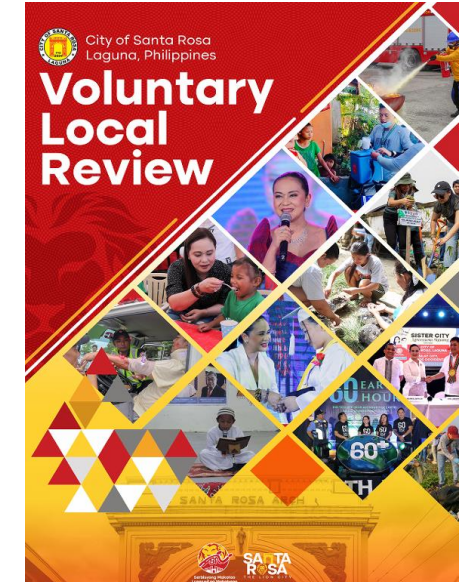
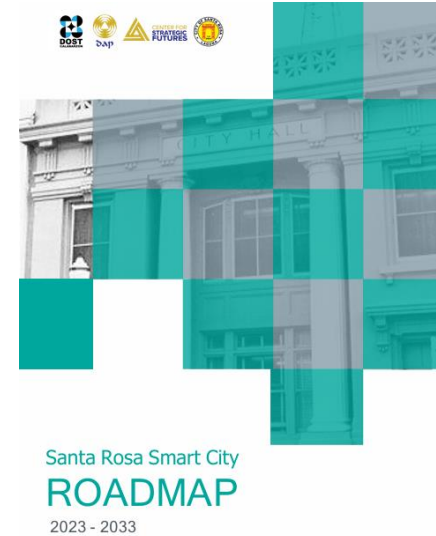
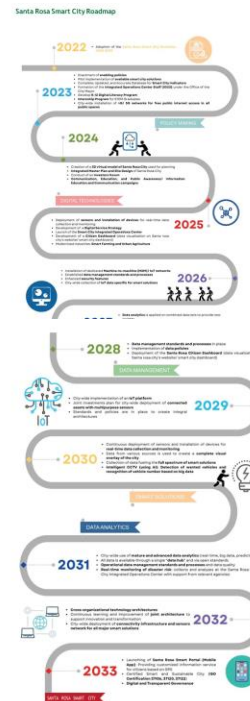
Note: All these are incorporated in a central Dashboard as an SDG monitoring and reporting tool



Steps in Monitoring Progress on SDG Localization

4. Smart City Roadmap – VLR Interlink

- Smart City Roadmap Implementation being aligned with the VLR



Steps in Monitoring Progress on SDG Localization

5. Integration into Planning and Budgeting

As a Core Principle

“Sustainability at the heart of every Program, Project and Activity” (PPA)

Key Plans that Integrate SDGs

- Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP): a pioneer in Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
- Comprehensive Development Plan: multi-sectoral plan incorporating SDG indicators
- Annual Investment Plan (AIP) and the Annual Budget: blueprint for resource allocation aligned with local priorities and sustainable urban development
- All local plans aligned with National Plans that are consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals



VLR experience as an improvement in SDG progress reporting

1. Strengthened Institutionalization through the mainstreaming of SDGs in the formulation of Ordinances (local laws) and Resolutions
2. Enhanced Data-Driven governance through technology (IoT, AI, Analytics)
3. Improved Systematic Data Analysis by Linking Global Indicators, Validation and Trend analysis and Identification of Data Gaps – through the use of the SDG Monitoring and Evaluation Tools (Handbook for SDG Monitoring for Local Governments)



Conclusion – A Blueprint for Sustainable Future

“The City of Santa Rosa: a vibrant community that is well-informed (**SDG 4**), health-conscious (**SDGs 2 & 3**), gender-inclusive (**SDG 5**), and in harmony (**SDG 16**) with improved quality of life (**SDG 1**) in a sustainable community (**SDG 11**), in pursuit of equality (**SDG 5**) and holistic climate actions (**SDG 13**) through strong partnerships and collaborations (**SDG 17**), while embracing responsible use of resources (**SDG 12**).” – *from Santa Rosa’s VLR Workshop in June 2024*





Thank you for Listening!



The City of Santa Rosa supports the Sustainable Development Goals

City Government of Santa Rosa

