



# Colorado General Assembly

## Digital Accessibility

---

October 4, 2023

**Annabelle Tracy**

Senior Accessibility Analyst, Legislative Council Staff

# Agenda

1. Introduction to accessibility
2. Strategy and plan of action
3. Progress and next steps



# Introduction to Accessibility

1. Accessibility & Digital Accessibility
2. Why is accessibility important?
3. House Bill 21-1110 & Senate Bill 34-244



# Accessibility

Equal rights and opportunities

# Digital Accessibility

Equal access to information

# Nothing is ever 100% accessible.

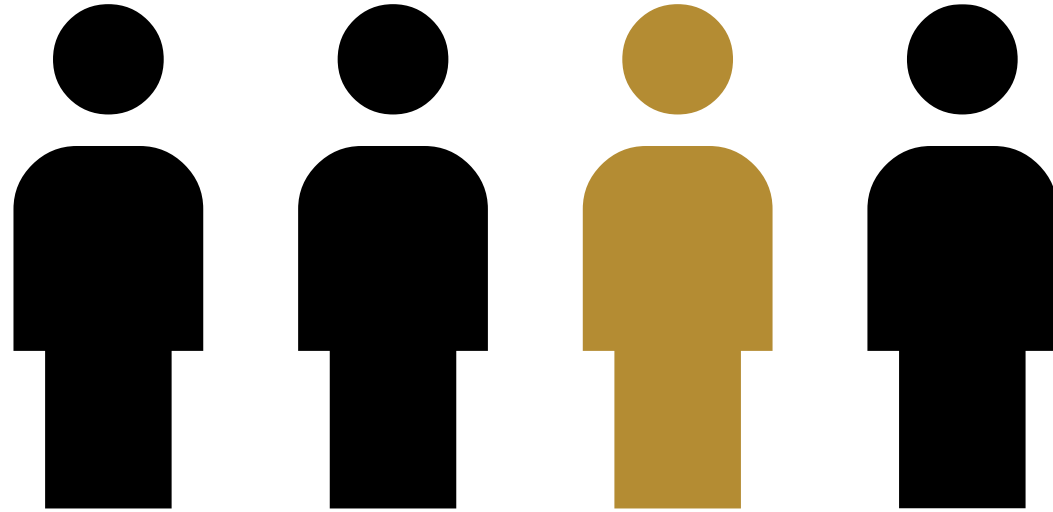
It is possible to comply with technical standards  
and provide accommodation.



# **"Accessible"**

Conforms to accessibility related  
technical standards.

# One in four



# Coloradans

Source: [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)



# House Bill 21-1110

- All public and internal digital content must be accessible.
- Applies to all Colorado government entities
- Each entity is responsible for their own content.
- Punitive consequences
- July 1, 2024 deadline



# Senate Bill 23-244

- Granted rulemaking authority to the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT)
- Allows for reasonable accommodations
- Clarifies punitive consequences:
  - If multiple violations occur in **single digital product**, this is considered a **single incident**.



# What is digital content?

All technology and digital products.



# Digital Products

- Documents
- Hardware
- Multimedia
- Software
- Websites



# Third-party Products

- Software
  - Microsoft Word, Zoom, etc.
- Websites
  - The Colorado Channel



# Third-party Compliance

- Accessibility Conformance Report (ACR)
- Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT)

Failed VPAT

+

No improvement plan

---

= Choose an alternative product



# Strategy & Plan of Action

1. Two-part strategy
2. Digital Accessibility Plan of Action



## Creation

- Production processes
- Testing and remediation processes and procedure

## Accommodation

- Accommodation processes and procedure



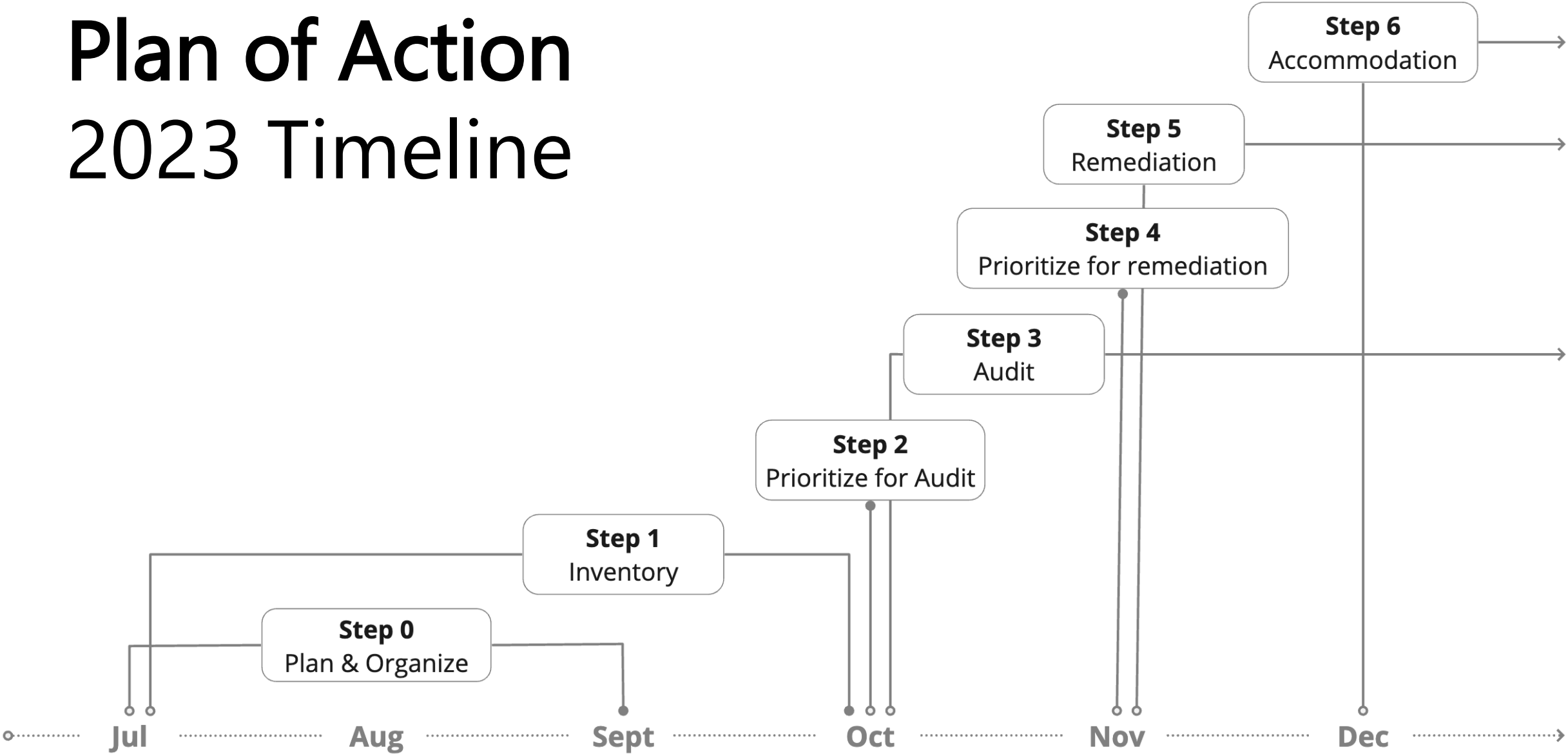
# Digital Accessibility Plan of Action

- **Step 0**  
Plan & Organize
- **Step 1**  
Inventory
- **Step 2**  
Prioritize for Accessibility Audit
- **Step 3**  
Accessibility Audit
- **Step 4**  
Prioritize for Remediation
- **Step 5**  
Remediate
- **Step 6**  
Accommodate



# Plan of Action

## 2023 Timeline



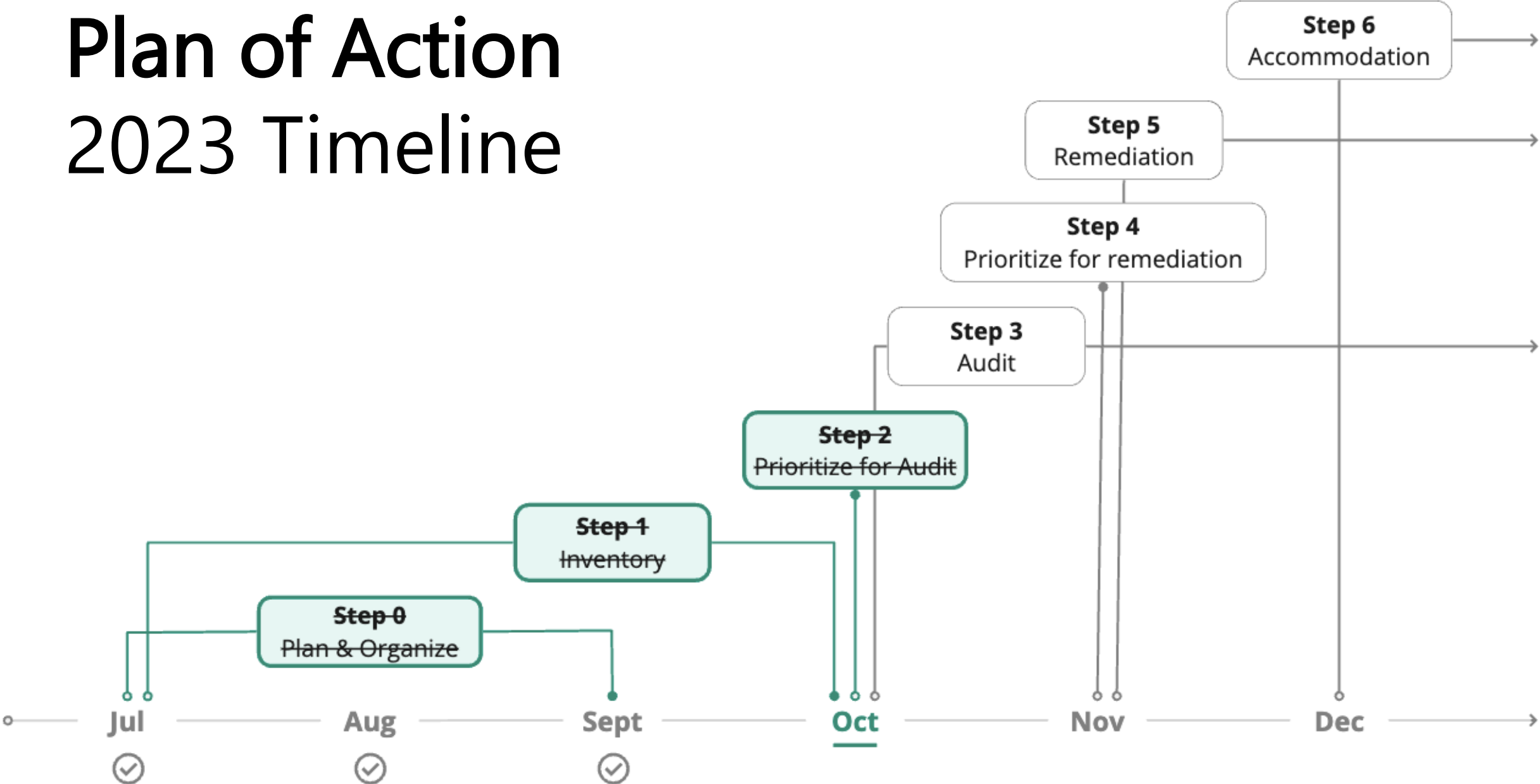
# Progress & Next Steps

1. What has been accomplished?
2. What is being worked on now?
3. What are the next steps?



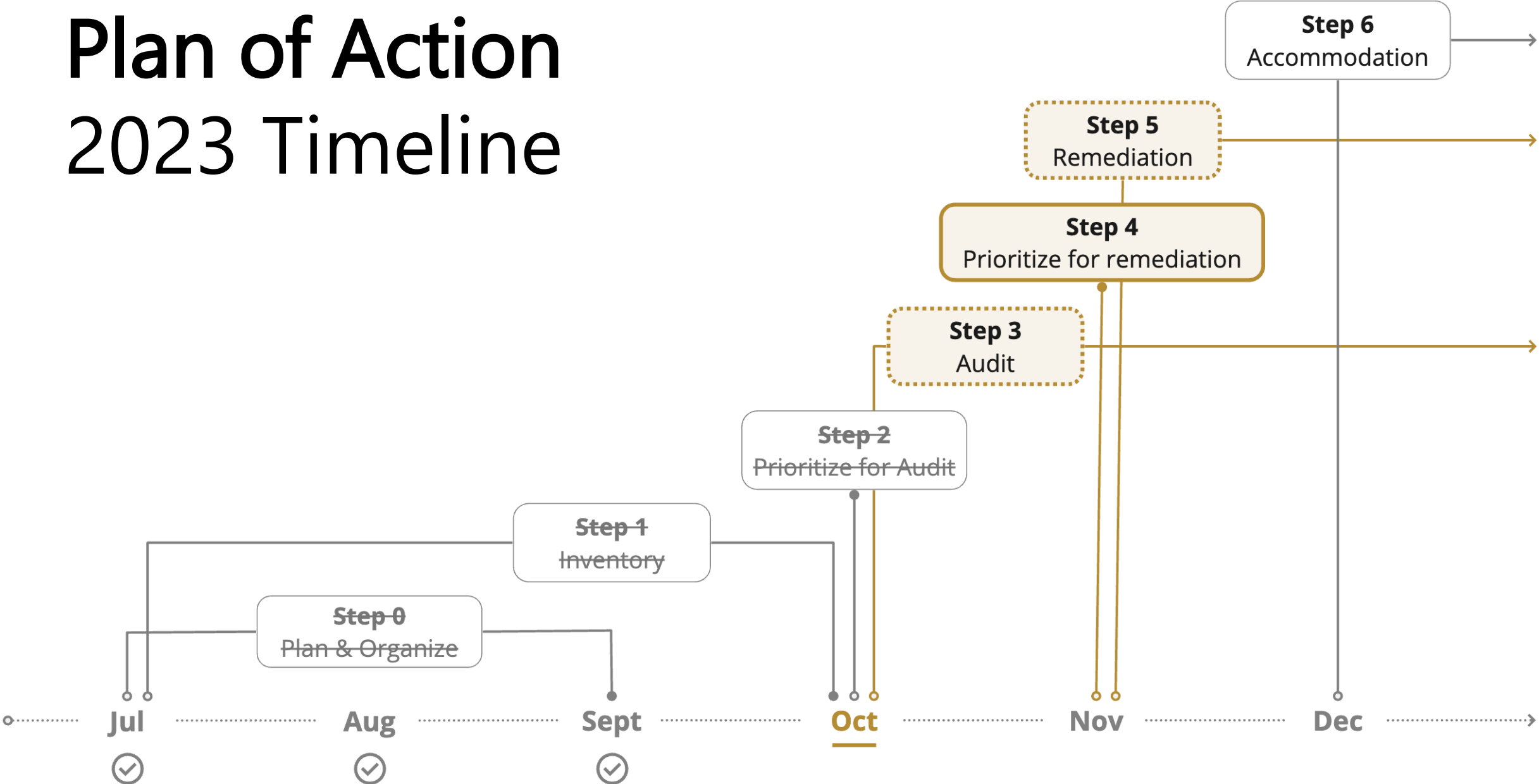
# Plan of Action

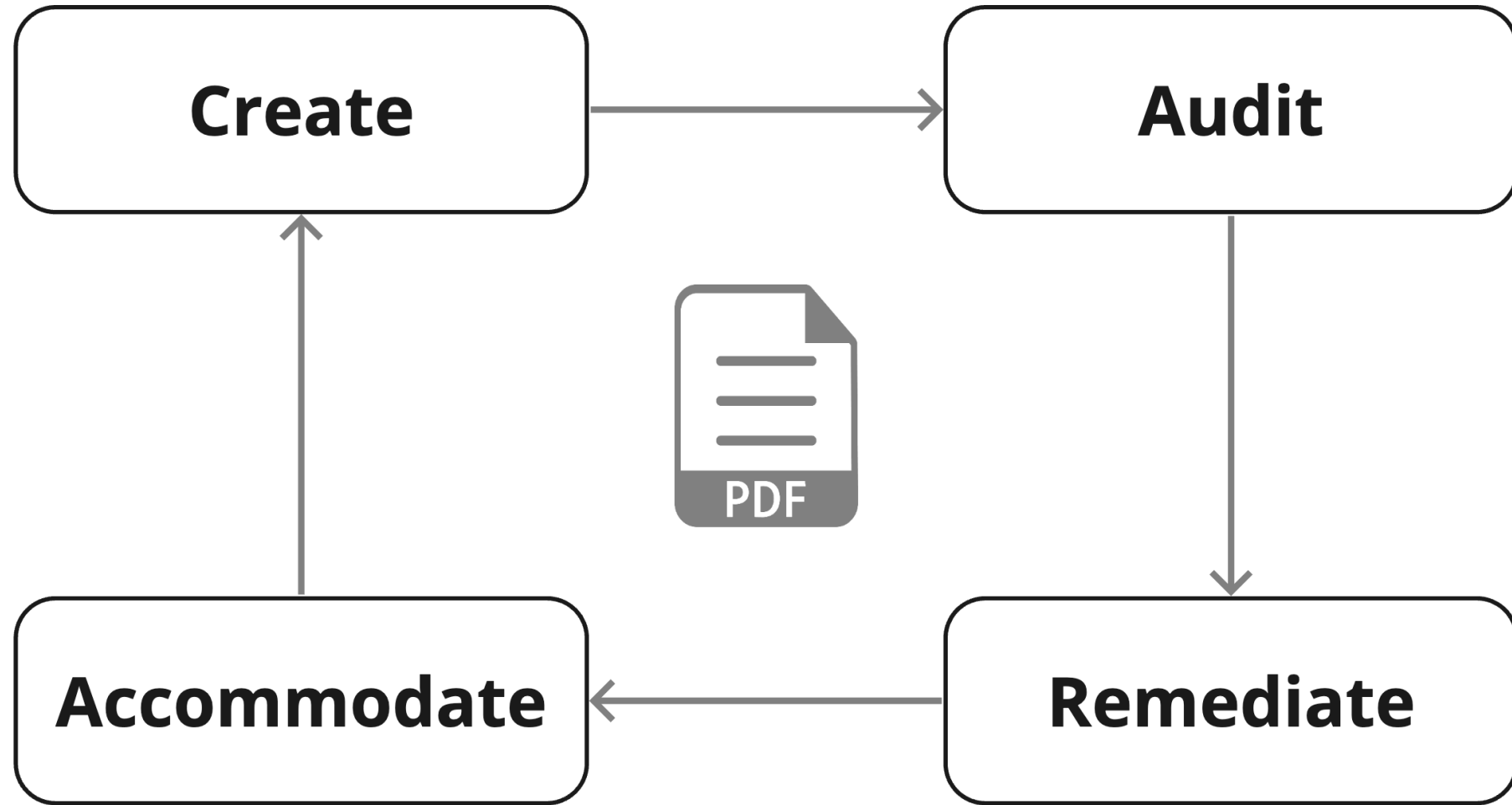
## 2023 Timeline



# Plan of Action

## 2023 Timeline





# Next Steps

- Accessibility audit of high priority products
- Identify problem areas in workflows
- Remediate key items
- Establish standard accommodation processes and procedures



# Thank you

