

**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

DATE: June 22, 2022

TO: San Mateo County Planning Commission

FROM: San Mateo County Office of Sustainability

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Consideration of the 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan and update to the Climate Action Element of the County's General Plan.

County File No.: PLN 2022-00162 (County of San Mateo Office of Sustainability)

DISCUSSION

Overview of the Draft General Plan Climate Element and 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) Update.

The County began the process of updating the 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element and the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan in order to bring these policy documents into compliance with State law. This update process has led to the creation of the 2022 General Plan Climate Element and the 2022 CCAP. Included in this report is an overview of the components of the 2022 CCAP for San Mateo County's unincorporated areas. The report provides a high-level overview of the CCAP structure, sources of emissions, key emissions reduction actions that correspond to those sources, and the County's approach to ensuring public engagement and addressing racial equity in the CCAP. Equity, being a key priority for the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, serves as a cornerstone principle throughout the development of the Draft General Plan Climate Element and the CCAP. Additionally, the report provides information about the environmental review process, which yielded a Negative Declaration, information about how staff have ensured conformance with other County policies, and a recommendation that the Planning Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the Negative Declaration and the 2022 Climate Element and the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan.

There are two components to this update: 1) the Draft General Plan Climate Element and 2) the CCAP. The Draft General Plan Climate Element is an element in the County's General Plan and provides a higher-level framework for bringing about emissions reductions whereas the CCAP provides much more detailed information about climate change and the proposed actions for reducing emissions by 2030 and 2040. Neither document is legally required, however, both constitute the County's current policy mechanism for establishing and implementing an emissions reduction

plan. Developing an emissions reduction plan, whether it is part of a general plan or not, is legally required by the State of California.

The updated Draft General Plan Climate Element will replace the existing Energy and Climate Change Element adopted in June of 2013, which is out of date and no longer reflective of new State climate goals. The updated Draft General Plan Climate Element, which focuses exclusively on unincorporated communities and land, includes updated background information and updated policies and actions, which have been vetted through an extensive public engagement process. Going forward, it is being recommended that the CCAP and the Draft General Plan Climate Element be updated on an “as-needed” basis as more supportive and aggressive State legislation emerges in the coming years.

The County’s first climate action plan, the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan (EECAP), a companion plan to the 2013 General Plan Energy and Climate Change Element, established a greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) reduction goal that was consistent with the State’s Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill or AB 32), which set out to achieve 1990 GHG emissions levels by 2020, equivalent to a 15% reduction below baseline 2005 emissions levels. To keep pace with State law and policy and evolving climate science, the updated CCAP establishes a GHG emissions reduction target of 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality¹ by 2040. The CCAP includes updated climate science background, regulatory context, and policies and actions.

Below, Figure 1 provides a summary table of the four documents under consideration.

¹ Carbon neutrality is when a jurisdiction sequesters or removes from the atmosphere the same amount of greenhouse gases it produces, creating a net carbon neutral state. In order to meet this goal, the County must reduce emissions further, as well as sequester the equivalent of its remaining emissions.

Current Policy Documents			Updated Policy Documents		
<u>Document Name</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Frequency of Update</u>	<u>Document Name</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Frequency of Update</u>
2013 Energy and Climate Change Element	High level framework for emissions reductions embedded in the General Plan	Not updated since 2013, no required update timeline	Draft General Plan Climate Element	High level framework for emissions reductions embedded in the General Plan	As needed
2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan (EECAP)	Detailed plan for reaching emissions reduction goal	Not updated since 2013, no required update timeline	2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP)	Detailed plan for reaching emissions reduction goals	As needed

Figure 1. Summary table of documents under consideration.

Overview of the CCAP and Draft General Plan Climate Element:

Because the CCAP and Draft General Plan Climate Element are part of the County’s General Plan, a formal policy document, both documents must meet basic conditions listed below in order to be considered a “certified” plan and consistent with State law. According to State law and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the updated CCAP and Draft General Plan Climate Element will:

1. Quantify greenhouse gas emissions, both existing and projected over a specified time period, resulting from activities within a defined geographic area;
2. Establish an emissions reduction goal as well as a clear justification. This is also referred to as “substantial evidence” for *how* that goal will be reached. A local jurisdiction, therefore, must demonstrate the degree to which proposed actions will lead to the stated goal;
3. Identify and analyze the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from specific actions or categories of actions anticipated within the geographic area;
4. Specify measures or a group of measures, including performance standards, that substantial evidence demonstrates, if implemented on a project-by-project basis, would collectively achieve the specified emissions level;
5. Establish a mechanism to monitor the plan’s progress toward achieving the GHG reduction level and to require amendment if the plan is not achieving specified levels; and
6. Be adopted in a public process following environmental review.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

In order to meet the criteria establish under CEQA, the CCAP must track emissions from unincorporated communities. The GHG inventory provides the scientific basis for quantifying emissions reduction strategies and developing climate goals. The inventory tracks the GHG emissions originating from unincorporated areas that the County of San Mateo is responsible for reducing. Below, Figure 2. "Emissions reduction goals by 2030" displays the sector-wide 2030 emissions reduction goal in the center, the contribution of each sector to County's emissions profile in the colored ring, as well as the key areas of opportunity for achieving those emissions reductions by sector in the outer-most text. The CCAP emission reduction targets and strategies were designed to reduce emissions in these critical sectors. For example, the transportation sector accounts for 40% of the County's total emissions, and the County's vehicle fleet needs to include 18% zero emission vehicles and equipment by 2030 in order to reach the emissions reduction goal. The CCAP's organization and targets are oriented around this inventory.

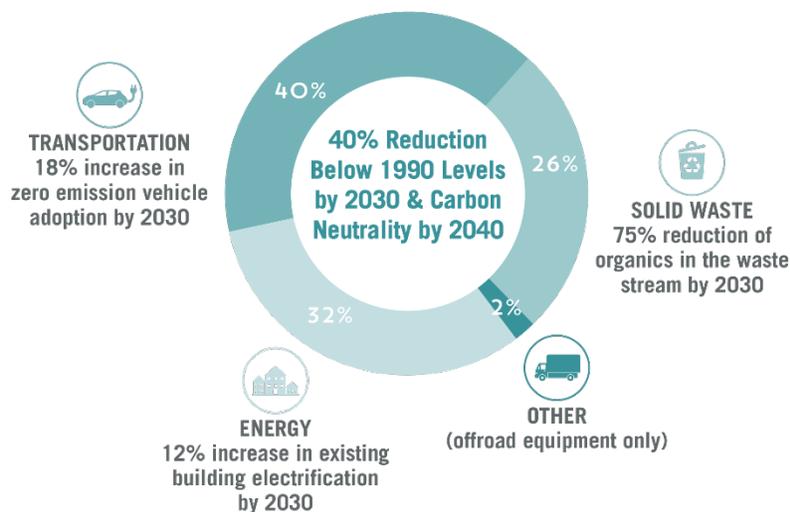


Figure 2. Emissions reduction goals by 2030.

CCAP Organization and Targets.

The CCAP is organized around the following sectors, which correspond to the emissions inventory (with the exception of working lands) with key targets in each:

- Building energy: strategies to reduce energy use and transition to renewable energy sources.
 - o Key outcome: Electrify 16% of existing buildings
- Transportation: strategies to shift to electricity and use transportation modes such as transit, walking, and biking
 - o Key outcome: 18% increase in zero emission vehicle adoption
- Waste and consumption: strategies to reduce waste generation, divert waste from the landfill, and purchase more sustainable goods and services.
 - o Key outcome: 18% reduction in organics in the waste stream
- Working lands and carbon sequestration: strategies to sequester carbon, enable regenerative agricultural practices, and support the local food system
 - o Key outcome: sequester 39,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e).

CCAP Key Implementation Actions.

Building on this organization and these high-level outcomes, the CCAP provides detailed actions and policy pathways to pursue upon adoption. The County has undertaken a range of activities to implement the EECAP, the most notable and impactful of which was the establishment of Peninsula Clean Energy. This ensures that San Mateo County has access to a clean supply of electricity making electrification of the building sector and the transportation sector a key strategy for reaching the ambitious climate targets in the CCAP. Building on that progress and foundation, the most critical implementation actions in the updated CCAP are electrifying existing buildings, reducing vehicle miles traveled by gas powered vehicles and increasing electric vehicle adoption rates, and supporting climate beneficial agricultural practice implementation. These actions have been vetted through an iterative public engagement process.

Public Engagement.

The updated Draft General Plan Climate Element and CCAP were developed using an iterative public outreach and engagement process, which included over 120 surveys, four pop-up events, fifteen virtual workshops and focus groups, over 70 briefings and interviews, two social media campaigns, two project announcements, an email notification list, an online open house, and three live virtual events. Through all of efforts, County staff reached over 1,000 community members in unincorporated areas on the coastside and bayside.

Equity.

The County recognizes the inextricable link between racial equity and climate change. Globally and locally, climate change threatens many of the populations who are least responsible for causing climate change, as well as those who are already experiencing disproportionate environmental, economic, and social hardships. The County aimed to prioritize racial equity throughout the planning process and embed racial equity in all measures through inclusive community engagement, targeted stakeholder consultation, and iterative evaluation of equity implications of proposed actions.

CCAP and Climate Element Environmental Review:

The County prepared an Environmental Impact Report for the EECAP adoption in 2013. County staff and technical consultants at Rincon prepared a tiered Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) document for the Climate Element and CCAP and determined that the proposed actions would not have a significant effect on the environment. The IS/ND was posted on the State Clearinghouse, the Half Moon Bay Review, the San Mateo Daily Journal, and the CCAP online open house for a 30-day public comment period of March 30 to April 29, 2022. No comments were received.

Consistency with Other General Plan Elements and the Local Coastal Program:

The amendment is consistent with General Plan Chapters and Local Coastal Program Components. County staff reviewed each proposed CCAP measure for overall coherence and consistency with County General Plan elements and with the Local

Coastal Program. Staff modified measures for consistency, discarded others due to inconsistency or redundancy, and identified future changes to the Urban Land Use and Transportation elements of the General Plan to bring those documents into alignment with the CCAP during a future update process.

Recommendation:

In light of the robust public engagement efforts and the comprehensive technical analysis undergirding the 2022 General Plan Climate Element and the CCAP, the report recommends that the Planning Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors:

1. adopt a resolution adopting the Negative Declaration for the 2022 San Mateo County General Plan Climate Element and the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan; and
2. adopt a resolution adopting the 2022 Climate Element of the San Mateo County General Plan, replacing the existing General Plan Energy and Climate Element, and adopting the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan.

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PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

DATE: June 22, 2022

TO: San Mateo County Planning Commission

FROM: San Mateo County Office of Sustainability

SUBJECT: Consideration of the 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan and update to the Climate Element of the County's General Plan

County File No.: PLN 2022-00162 (County of San Mateo Office of Sustainability)

PROPOSAL

The Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with Planning and Building Department and Department of Public Works, and with assistance from other County departments, is updating the 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element of the General Plan. Consistent with State law, the updated Element and companion Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) provide a strategic roadmap to guide the County of San Mateo in creating impactful greenhouse gas emissions reduction in unincorporated communities. The CCAP uses the best available science and proposes innovative and substantiated actions that will enable the County to reach its climate goals. Key actions include electrifying existing buildings, improving access to active modes of transportation such as biking and walking, reducing vehicle miles traveled by gas powered vehicles, increasing electric vehicle adoption rates, reducing organic waste sent to the landfill, and sequestering carbon in our working lands, among other actions and practices.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors:

3. adopt a resolution adopting the Negative Declaration for the 2022 San Mateo County General Plan Climate Element and the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan; and
4. adopt a resolution adopting the 2022 Climate Element of the San Mateo County General Plan, replacing the existing General Plan Energy and Climate Element, and adopting the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan.

BACKGROUND

Report Prepared By: Avana Andrade, Senior Sustainability Specialist, Office of Sustainability

Applicant: County of San Mateo Office of Sustainability

Public Notification: Newspaper notification at least 10 days prior to the hearing.

Location: Properties within the unincorporated County.

Sphere-of-Influence: Redwood City, Daly City, San Carlos, Woodside, Menlo Park, Burlingame, Portola Valley, Belmont, City of San Mateo, Millbrae, San Bruno, South San Francisco.

Environmental Evaluation: Initial Study and Negative Declaration prepared and posted March 30, 2022 to April 29, 2022.

Chronology:

Date Action

Spring, 2019–Spring, 2020	-	Initial data collection, technical analysis, develop preliminary action list development.
Spring, 2020–Spring 2021	-	Stakeholder engagement
Summer, 2021	-	Draft documents preparation
Summer – Fall, 2021	-	Key internal departmental and external stakeholder engagement
Winter 2021-2022	-	Draft document revisions
April 27, 2022	-	Planning Commission study session
April 29, 2022	-	Final phase of public comment closed
June 22, 2022	-	Planning Commission hearing
August 8, 2022	-	Board of Supervisors hearing

DISCUSSION

A. KEY ISSUES

1. Introduction to the Draft General Plan Climate Element and 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan. The County began the process of updating the 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element and the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan in order to bring these policy documents into compliance with State law. This update process has led to the creations of the 2022 General Plan Climate Element and the 2022 CCAP. Included in this report is an overview of the components of the 2022 CCAP for San Mateo County's unincorporated areas. The report provides a high-level overview of the CCAP structure, sources of emissions, and key emissions reduction actions that correspond to those sources, and the County's approach to ensuring public engagement and addressing racial equity in the CCAP. Equity, being a key priority for the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, serves as a cornerstone principle throughout the development of the Draft General Plan Climate Element and the CCAP. Additionally, the report provides information about the environmental review process, which yielded a Negative Declaration, information about how staff have ensured conformance with other County policies, and a recommendation that the Planning Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the Negative Declaration and the 2022 Climate Element and the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan.
 - a. The 2022 Draft General Plan Climate Element. California Government Code section 65302 lists mandatory or statutorily required general plan elements for all California jurisdictions. A climate change element is not a statutorily required element in a jurisdiction's general plan, but the topic of climate change and the methods for bringing about emissions reduction relate directly to other elements that are statutorily required, such as land use, housing, and safety elements. Additionally, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Environmental Quality Act Air Quality Guidelines (BAAQMD Guidelines) require that projects (including general plans) are compliant with AB 32. Section 4.3 of the BAAQMD Guidelines explains, "[t]he GHG Reduction Strategy should identify goals, policies and implementation measures that would achieve AB 32 and move toward climate stabilization goals established in Executive Order S-3-05."² Climate change may be addressed in relevant statutory elements,

² Bay Area Air Quality Management District California Environmental Quality Act Air Quality Guidelines, 2010 (updated: 2017) http://www.baaqmd.gov/~media/files/planning-and-research/ceqa/ceqa_guidelines_may2017-pdf.pdf?la=en. Executive Order S-3-05, which is explicitly

but many jurisdictions elect to create a separate climate element more tailored to the scope and nature of the topic. San Mateo County has elected to embed climate action within its general plan via the first climate-related element, the 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element, as well as formulate a separate but related document, the 2013 EECAP and now the updated draft 2022 CCAP, which provides more detail and strategic direction for meeting emissions reduction goals.

- b. The 2022 General Plan Climate Element Update. The first climate-related element, the Energy and Climate Change element was adopted in 2013. It does not cover a specific time period or establish a frequency for being updated. The scientific and regulatory context is out of date and its policies are no longer suited to comply with current State climate goals. The updated 2022 Draft General Plan Climate Element will replace the existing 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element and will be updated on an “as-needed” basis as more supportive and aggressive State legislation emerges in the coming years.
- c. The 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP). The CCAP is a companion document to the Draft General Plan Climate Element. It is a stand-alone document that allows the County to keep pace with State law and policy and ensure GHG emission reduction targets are reached. It includes the following components required by California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, Section 15183.5:
 - i. Quantify greenhouse gas emissions, both existing and projected over a specified time period, resulting from activities within a defined geographic area;
 - ii. Establish a level, based on substantial evidence, below which the contribution to greenhouse gas emissions from activities covered by the plan would not be cumulatively considerable;³
 - iii. Identify and analyze the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from specific actions or categories of actions anticipated within the geographic area;
 - iv. Specify measures or a group of measures, including performance standards, that substantial evidence demonstrates, if implemented on a project-by-project basis, would collectively achieve the specified emissions level;

called out in the above excerpt, was signed by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2005 and established a long-term GHG emissions reduction target for the State of 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

³ The CEQA Guidelines within Section 15130 provides that “An EIR shall discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project’s incremental effect is cumulatively considerable, as defined in Guidelines Section 15065(a)(3).” That section defines “cumulatively considerable” to mean “that the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.” (14 C.C.R. 15065.)

- v. Establish a mechanism to monitor the plan’s progress toward achieving the level and to require amendment if the plan is not achieving specified levels; and
 - vi. Be adopted in a public process following environmental review.
- d. The 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan Update. The County’s first climate action plan, the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan (EECAP) established a GHG emissions reduction goal that was consistent with AB 32 (achieve 1990 GHG emissions levels by 2020, equivalent to a 15% reduction below baseline 2005-2008 emissions levels). The County reached this goal early, in 2017, as a result of establishing Peninsula Clean Energy which now procures clean energy for all San Mateo County residents. To keep pace with State law, policy, and evolving climate science, the CCAP establishes a GHG emission reduction target of 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality⁴ by 2040.

The plan is organized around the following sectors, which correspond to the emissions inventory, with the exception of working lands, with key strategies and targets listed below:

- i. Building energy: strategies to reduce energy use and transition to renewable energy sources. Key target: Electrify 16% of existing buildings
 - ii. Transportation: strategies to shift to electricity and use transportation modes such as transit, walking, and biking. Key target: 18% in zero emission vehicle and equipment adoption
 - iii. Waste and consumption: strategies to reduce waste generation, divert waste from the landfill, and purchase more sustainable goods and services. Key target: 18% reduction in organics in the waste stream
 - iv. Working lands and carbon sequestration: strategies to sequester carbon, enable regenerative agricultural practices, and support the local food system. Key target: sequester 39,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e).
- e. Future Changes to the Climate Element and CCAP. More supportive and aggressive State legislation in the coming months and years is anticipated. To keep pace with legislation, County progress, and technological and scientific advancements, staff recommend that these documents be updated on a “as-needed” basis. Office of Sustainability staff will lead and coordinate this update process, when it is deemed necessary, which will involve modifying, replacing, or eliminating CCAP measures through time to maintain a relevant and up-to-date plan.

⁴ Carbon neutrality is when a jurisdiction sequesters or removes from the atmosphere the same amount of greenhouse gases it produces, creating a net carbon neutral state. In order to meet this goal, the County must reduce emissions further, as well as sequester the equivalent of its remaining emissions.

Future updates to the CCAP will not require Board of Supervisors adoption.

2. Contents of the 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan

- a. Executive Summary. This section summarizes the key elements of the plan, including the regulatory context, equity considerations in the plan, the public engagement process, GHG emission reduction goals, and summaries of the plans' actions.
- b. Introduction. This section establishes the scientific context of climate change, summarizes the benefits of taking climate action, presents a high-level assessment of the intersection between climate adaptation, or preparing for the effects of climate change, and climate mitigation, or reducing GHG emissions, and discusses the collaborative role the County must play in bringing about countywide carbon reduction.
- c. Plan Overview. This section provides a brief snapshot of the rest of the plan's overall structure and contents, an overview of the public engagement process, a summary of community feedback, and how public engagement and the CCAP's contents address equity-related concerns.
- d. Climate Change and San Mateo County. This section presents information on how climate change will affect San Mateo County communities, puts the County's emissions sources into a global context, and presents information about GHG emissions and a summary of unincorporated San Mateo County emission trends.
- e. Goals. This section sets the policy context for establishing GHG emission reduction goals, provides the unincorporated County's emission forecast and goals and presents the actions that will be essential for the County to reach those goals as well as the contribution those actions will make towards the 2030 and 2040 goals.
- f. Policies and Actions. This section presents the policies and actions of the plan by sector: Building Energy, Transportation, Waste & Consumption, and Working Lands, as well as partner spotlights in each sector.
- g. Benefits of Climate Action. This section explains the benefits that taking climate action can have in improving the quality of life for all San Mateo County unincorporated community members including: public health and equity, resilient communities, reduced traffic congestion, economic opportunity and green jobs, and resilient local food systems.

- h. Implementation. This section presents a framework for implementing the CCAP and clarifies how the County can ensure successful and collaborative implementation. This section also provides a high-level implementation matrix for key focus areas for the first one to two years after the CCAP is adopted, key accomplishments by the County over the past ten years in each sector, and the landscape of partnerships and stakeholders that will make the plan’s implementation possible.
- i. Key Performance Indicators. This section presents the key performance indicators the County must monitor and report on in the coming years to track progress in reaching the interim and long-term GHG emission reduction goals and the plan’s outcomes.
- j. Key Definitions. This section defines some of the key terms used frequently throughout the plan.
- k. Acronyms. This section explains commonly used acronyms throughout the report.

3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, Sources, Trends, and Forecast.

- a. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory. The GHG inventory provides the scientific basis for quantifying emissions reduction strategies and developing climate goals. The inventory tracks the GHG emissions originating from unincorporated areas that the County of San Mateo is responsible for reducing. Figure 3 illustrates the CCAP's emissions reduction goals by 2030. The graph displays the sector-wide 2030 emissions reduction goal in the center, the contribution of each sector to County’s emissions profile in the colored ring, as well as the key areas of opportunity for achieving those emissions reductions by sector in the outer-most text.

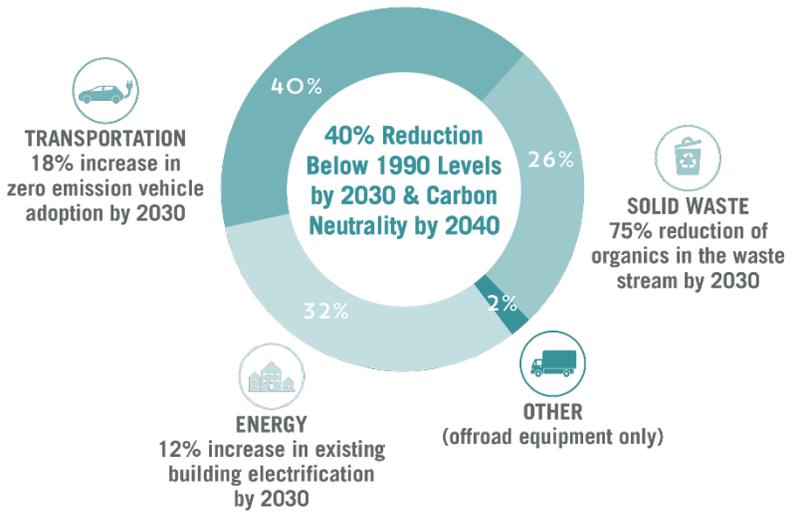


Figure 3. Emissions reduction goals by 2030.

- b. **Emissions Sources**: The GHG emissions the County must reduce in its unincorporated communities originate in the sectors listed below.
- i. **Transportation**: Transportation emissions (40% of total 2017 emissions) have remained steady over time, with more significant reductions in recent years (2016 and 2017) due to increases in fuel efficiency because of state and/or federal fuel economy standards. Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) has increased steadily over time (5% increase over 2005 baseline levels), but average fuel efficiency has increased from 19.9 mpg in 2010 to 24.0 mpg in 2017. Although the most current inventory data is from 2017 and, therefore, does not include the period since the COVID-19 pandemic began, transportation emissions did not decline due to the shelter-in-place orders. The sudden reduction in traffic did not result in an appreciable amount of GHG reduction in the transportation sector.
 - ii. **Building Energy**: Emissions from building and industrial energy consumption (32% of total 2017 emissions) have declined significantly since 2010, largely due to cleaner electricity sources for commercial, industrial, and residential uses. This switch to cleaner fuels was facilitated by the introduction of Peninsula Clean Energy, which provides options for County customers to purchase 100% renewable electricity to heat and power their homes and businesses.
 - iii. **Solid Waste and Consumption**: Emissions associated with solid waste generation and disposal (2% of total 2017 emissions) have fluctuated over time, with a net increase of 11% (728 MTCO₂e) since 2010. Economy-wide dependence on fossil fuels and a consumeristic “throw-away” culture drives this upward trend in waste generation, transport, and disposal emissions.
 - iv. **Working Lands**: Agriculture in unincorporated San Mateo County on both range and cropland releases GHG emissions through off-road vehicles (i.e., tractors), diesel pumps, enteric fermentation (enteric fermentation occurs in ruminant digestive systems and produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas), and fertilizer application. Though these activities produce GHG emissions, the relative contribution is quite low compared to building energy and transportation sectors (2% of total 2017 emissions). Unlike other sectors, emissions on working lands are not forecasted to increase, and this is the only sector that

currently presents the opportunity to sequester atmospheric carbon into the soil.

- c. Emissions trend over time: Emissions trends in recent years indicate a gradual decline since 2010. Unincorporated San Mateo County has steadily reduced its GHG emissions over time. Many of these reductions are from cleaner electricity fuel sources for residential and commercial buildings. However the rate of reduction must increase drastically in order to achieve a 40% reduction in emissions below 1990 levels by 2030. Below, Figure 4. Unincorporated San Mateo County emissions over time.

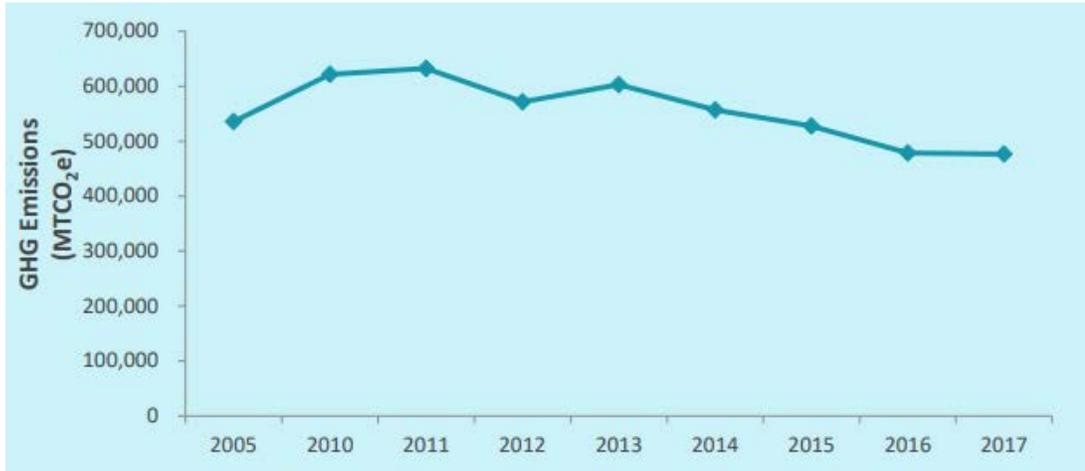


Figure 4. Unincorporated San Mateo County emissions over time.

- d. GHG Emissions Forecast and Reduction Pathway. Below Figure 5. illustrates the CCAP's proposed emissions reduction pathway compared with the "Business as Usual Scenario."

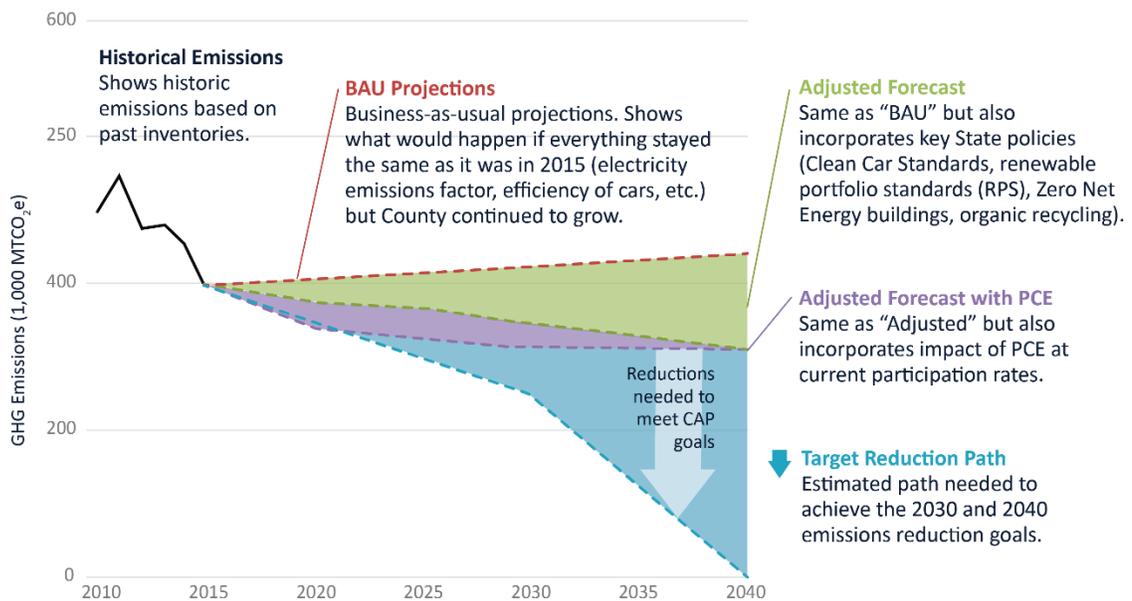


Figure 5. CCAP pathway compared with Business as Usual Scenario

4. Changes from 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element. The measures in the Draft General Plan Climate Element have been revised and updated to reflect current State law, science, and local conditions, as well as input received from stakeholders throughout the engagement process. Much of the information in the 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element that requires frequent updating, such as the inventory and specific scientific data, has been removed in order to maintain the document's relevance and integrity through time. All of this information, however, is retained in full in the 2022 CCAP, where it can be updated as needed without triggering an update to the General Plan or approval by the Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors.
5. Changes from the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan. The narrative and measures in the CCAP have been revised and updated to reflect current State law, science, local conditions, progress made over the past decade, as well as input received from local stakeholders throughout the engagement process. Although the sectors have remained largely the same, new measures have been developed and refined in each, with notable changes in the Working Lands component, which includes a suite of supportive measures for climate beneficial agriculture and carbon sequestration.
6. Key Implementation Actions. The CCAP provides a one-to-two-year implementation matrix for key actions needed to reach emissions

reduction goals, as shown below in Figure 6. One- to two-year implementation matrix for key actions.

Action	Lead Department	Key Partners	Next Steps & Considerations
B-2.2 Investigate regulatory pathways for electrifying existing buildings	OOS, Planning and Building	OOS, Planning and Building	Next steps: Assemble working group, allocate funding for feasibility study Considerations: Grid reliability, equity, utility cost burden
B-2.3 Conduct electrification retrofit pilot	OOS, Housing, San Mateo Community College District	OOS, Housing, San Mateo Community College District	Next steps: Assemble working group to scope initial pilot and identify funding source(s) Considerations: Build on other pilots and local and regional studies
T-2.3 Improve traffic calming and complete streets features, including urban canopy, in North Fair Oaks	Public Works, OOS, Health	Public Works, OOS, Health	Next steps: Assemble project team, establish a plan for identifying best locations for tree plantings, apply for grant funding Considerations: Utilize a phased approach, focusing on areas of high need first, address long-term maintenance costs
T-2.7 Support the implementation of the Active Transportation Plan by implementing priority pedestrian and bikeway projects.	OOS, Public Works, Planning	OOS, Public Works, Planning	Next steps: Support implementation of existing grant-funded projects, identify projects for inclusion in the Capital Improvement Plan Considerations: Focus on historically underserved neighborhoods
B-3.1 Perform capacity mapping for distributed energy resource project opportunities	OOS, PCE, PG&E, Planning, OES, Health, Housing	OOS, PCE, PG&E, Planning, OES, Health, Housing	Next steps: Assemble working group, case study research, allocate funding Considerations: Coastside grid reliability, utility cost burden, frameworks for co-ownership and maintenance
B-1.7 & W-3.8 Plan workforce development programs in energy and solid waste reduction sectors	OOS	San Mateo Community College District, PCE, public schools, community-based organizations (CBOs)	Next steps: Assemble internal OOS working group to identify areas of opportunity in both sectors, establish strategic partnerships and more inclusive working group to scope potential program and identify funding sources Considerations: Focus on <i>local</i> workforce, high road job and career opportunities
B-1.6 & B-2.10 Improve energy efficiency in new and existing buildings	Planning and Building, OOS		Next steps: Develop a workplan and budget for adopting a more aggressive climate zone in the building code Considerations: Housing cost impacts
T-1.3 Prepare an EV Readiness Plan to deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging	OOS, Public Works, PCE, PG&E	CBOs	Next steps: Assemble County working group to develop scope and workplan, potentially issue an RFP for support in evaluating equity-related impacts as well as technical feasibility and siting Considerations: Whether charging infrastructure is needed (i.e., if local residents have EVs), impact on parking availability, grid load
T-3.1 First mile-last mile pilot shuttle program	OOS, Health, City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG)	SamTrans, Caltrain, San Mateo County Transportation Authority, public schools, San Mateo Community College District, CBOs	Next steps: Identify potential areas and routes, identify potential funding sources Considerations: Build on lessons learned from SamTrans' previous pilots, providing multiple benefits for areas of the County most burdened by the cost and relative inaccessibility of public transit

Figure 6. One- to two-year implementation matrix for key actions.

7. Consistency with Other General Plan Elements and the Local Coastal Program. Office of Sustainability and the Planning & Building Department convened over the course of four working sessions to review each proposed CCAP measure for overall coherence and consistency with other County General Plan elements and with the Local Coastal Program (LCP).⁵ Staff identified General Plan and LCP elements that will need to be updated to be in aligned with the CCAP. This process resulted in better formulated actions that align with General Plan and the LCP policies while still advancing GHG emissions reductions. A few examples of this are provided.

The Building Energy chapter of the CCAP was reviewed for conformance with urban land use policies of the General Plan. After discussion, staff decided to eliminate one proposed action that directed staff to develop a policy to encourage and enable the deployment of distributed energy resource technologies (i.e. battery backup units) due to potential conflicts with urban land use policies, safety issues in citing such technology and accessory equipment, and unresolved ramifications for setbacks from homes and other structures on site. The proposed action to “[i]nvestigate regulatory pathways for converting existing buildings to all-electric...” was reviewed for consistency with existing building codes. Staff determined that the proposed action was broad enough so as to not pose a conflict with specific codes or require action by another department, such as the Assessor’s Office, without that department’s specific authorization.

The Transportation chapter of the CCAP, which includes actions relating to preserving and encouraging housing near public transportation (in order to facilitate easier access to public transportation, which reduces GHG emissions), was reviewed for conformance with the Housing component of the LCP, the Housing Element of the General Plan, the North Fair Oaks Community Plan, and the transportation policies of the General Plan. A proposed action for regulating or banning short-term vacation rentals was removed due to regulations already in place. Another proposed action about establishing requirements for a minimum proportion of affordable housing units in new single-family developments was also eliminated because the County already has a policy addressing this, namely an affordable housing impact fee in place for residential and commercial buildings.

The Working Lands chapter of the CCAP was reviewed for conformance with the rural and agriculture land use policies in the General Plan and

⁵ Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) are “basic planning tools used by local governments to guide development in the coastal zone, in partnership with the Coastal Commission. LCPs specify appropriate location, type, and scale of new or changes uses of land and water. Each LCP includes a land use plan and measures to implement the plan (such as zoning ordinances).” California Coastal Commission, “Local Coastal Programs,” <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/lcps.html>.

LCP. The actions in the CCAP will not result in a reduction of farmland or prime soils. Instead, CCAP actions encourage efforts that will support the agricultural community by identifying new financing sources to scale carbon farming, sourcing free or low-cost compost, and advancing public awareness and promotion of San Mateo County producers.

8. Updates to the General Plan and Local Coastal Program. Staff also identified several policies in the Urban Land Use and Transportation elements that, when updated, will need to integrate or respond to a new measure from the CCAP in order to support CCAP actions and priorities across the General Plan. The following CCAP actions, if adopted, will inform and direct future General Plan, LCP, and Building Regulation updates:
 - a. Building Energy 1.6: “Improve energy efficiency in new construction through enhancements in the building envelope (aspects such as insulation, windows, door seals, airflow, façade materials) by adopting a more aggressive climate zone in the building code.”
 - b. Building Energy 2.10: “Improve energy efficiency in large additions (400 square feet or larger) by adopting a higher climate zone in the building code that more accurately reflects anticipated climatic shifts. By responding to changes in climatic conditions, new energy efficiency building standards become cost-effective and can be adopted.”
 - c. Building Energy 4.1: “Develop and adopt regulations or modify existing adopted regulations to require reroofing projects to meet or exceed the most current cool roof efficiency standards as determined by the California Energy Commission for Climate Zone 11 (or whichever zone more accurately reflects anticipated shifts in climatic conditions).”
 - d. Transportation-2.1: “Update the General Plan and Local Coastal Plan with neighborhood mixed use, commercial mixed use, industrial mixed use, and multi-family residential designations to enable mixed-used development where feasible.”
 - e. Transportation-2.2: “Continue interdepartmental coordination and collaboration to update policies according to Housing Element updates to enable and promote affordable housing near transportation.”
 - f. Transportation-2.4: “Update the County’s Transportation Systems Management Ordinance to reflect updated regional policies, including but not limited to the San Mateo County Congestion Management Plan Transportation Demand Management Policy.”
 - g. Transportation-2.5: “Transportation improvements to reduce VMT- Conduct interdepartmental coordination to develop and adopt local guidelines, policies, and tools to implement changes to the California Environmental Quality Act’s transportation significance metric and criteria (SB 743).”
 - h. Transportation-2.8: “Review and revise existing bike parking requirements if they are inadequate for current and future demand. In

districts without current bike parking requirements, evaluate opportunities for developing them.”

B. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

1. Plan Development. This updated CCAP is the outcome of a four-year collaborative and communitywide process that involved the following iterative steps:
 - a. Background data collection: County staff conducted data collection on community GHG emission sources and developed a preliminary list of mitigation actions to address those sources.
 - b. Multicriteria analysis: Technical experts and County stakeholders collaborated to understand the full implications of each proposed action, and performed a multicriteria analysis of the actions’ emissions impacts, costs, equity considerations, and feasibility, which culminated in a prioritized shorter list of proposed actions.
 - c. Unincorporated community engagement: Throughout the process, County staff sought out input from local experts and community leaders, gathered diverse perspectives from both Bayside and the Coastside communities, integrated other projects and plans underway at the County and regional level, and altered the proposed policies and actions according to the local context. County staff adapted the outreach phase to reach residents and other stakeholders during challenging circumstances, including unprecedented wildfires and the COVID-19 pandemic. Gathering hundreds of community perspectives through an extended engagement and outreach strategy informed a plan that reflects people’s experiences, needs, and hopes for the future.
 - d. Revision and departmental coordination: County staff carefully reviewed community feedback to create an inclusive and context-oriented set of climate policies and a plan for implementation. The goal was to craft a forward-thinking plan that reflects and supports a shared community vision. This stage required close collaboration with other County departments, especially the Planning and Building Department and the Department of Public Works, to ensure that the measures can be successfully implemented to achieve intended goals.
2. Public Engagement: Public engagement included the following components:
 - a. Four pop- up events at community-oriented locations (pre-COVID) in North Fair Oaks. County staff trained and paid community members (promotoras) to administer surveys and talk to residents about climate change and the CCAP’s content. These events reached more than 60 people in hard-to-reach communities. COVID restrictions hampered efforts to host additional pop-up events throughout the county.

- b. Surveys (English, Spanish, and Mandarin). More than 120 surveys gathered from in-person and virtual events.
 - c. Public workshops (15 virtual workshops and focus groups). More than 400 residents reached in partnership with coast and bayside community-based organizations (CBOs). County staff coordinated directly with and provided financial resources to pay for staff time at community-based organizations as well as cities such as Half Moon Bay to conduct outreach. County and CBO staff worked together to develop relevant, contextual, and culturally sensitive outreach materials. CBO staff became more knowledgeable about climate change and the CCAP and led virtual workshops and focus groups, thereby creating an environment where local community members could more easily share and pose questions and ideas. County staff collaborated with the following organizations: Senior Coastsiders, ALAS, Sustainable Pescadero, Puente de la Costa Sur, Youth Climate Ambassadors, and Heirs to Our Oceans.
 - d. Interview and briefings (more than 100) with community groups, technical stakeholders, community-based organizations, and community leaders. These groups included, but aren't limited to: the North Fair Oaks Community Council, the Midcoast Community Council, the Pescadero Municipal Advisory Council, the Youth Leadership Institute, Menlo Spark, Acterra, Peninsula Clean Energy, PG&E, SamTrans, the Farm Bureau, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, Point Blue Conservation Science, the San Mateo Community College District, the San Mateo Resource Conservation District, Acterra, Rising Sun, SFO, SunWork, numerous high schools and libraries located in or adjacent to unincorporated SMC.
3. Final Public Comments Received. During the final round of public engagement (March-April, 2022), the following themes and concerns emerged from residents and community members, which are consistent with those staff received during previous phases of public engagement:
- a. Differentiated needs and challenges between bayside and coastside communities.
 - b. Need for electric vehicle charging infrastructure throughout the County.
 - c. Importance of addressing parking shortage in communities such as Pescadero and North Fair Oaks.
 - d. Importance of supporting micromobility options, which include small, lightweight vehicles such as bicycles, e-bikes, e-scooters, etc., in rural communities in addition to urban communities.
 - e. Concern about the expense and complexity of installing heat pump water heaters.

- f. Concern about electricity rates and disproportionate impact on rural communities.
4. April 27 Planning Commission Study Session Comments Received.
 - a. Focus on youth and student education.
 - b. Importance of incentives for residents to implement electrification or other emissions reduction efforts.
 - c. Importance of reducing vehicle miles traveled to meet emissions reduction goals.
 5. IS-ND Comments Received. No comments received.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The County prepared an Environmental Impact Report for the EECAP adoption in 2013. County staff and technical consultants at Rincon Consultants, Inc. prepared a tiered Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) document for the Climate Element and CCAP and determined that the proposed actions would not have a significant effect on the environment. The IS/ND was posted on the State Clearinghouse, the Half Moon Bay Review, the San Mateo County Times, and the CCAP online open house for a 30-day public comment period of March 30 to April 29, 2022. No comments were received.

D. RECOMMENDED FINDINGS

In order to adopt an updated element of the General Plan, the Board of Supervisors must make the following findings:

1. **That the proposed amendment to the General Plan, through adoption of an updated Climate Change Element and an implementing Community Climate Action Plan, is internally consistent with all other provisions of the General Plan.**

The amendment is consistent with General Plan Chapters and Local Coastal Program Components. County staff reviewed each proposed CCAP measure for overall coherence and consistency with County General Plan elements and with the Local Coastal Program. Staff modified measures for consistency, discarded others due to inconsistency or redundancy, and identified future changes to General Plan elements to bring those documents into alignment with the CCAP during a future update process.

2. **That the proposed amendment would not be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience, or welfare of the County.**

The amendment works towards the public interest in reducing the GHG emissions that cause climate change. Rapid emissions reduction will contribute to a more stable and favorable climate that everyone stands to benefit from. Climate mitigation can also contribute to healthier communities, more walkable neighborhoods, and economic opportunity for those historically left out of career-track and livable wage employment.

3. The proposed amendment will not have a significant effect on the environment.

As documented in the Initial Study and Negative Declaration, the amendment will not have a significant effect on the environment, water or air quality, nor will the amendment have adverse impacts on local flora or fauna, on the area's aesthetic qualities, or on traffic or land use. The environmental impact of the project is considered insignificant.

E. NEXT STEPS

Adoption. Updates to the general plan, such as adoption of the Draft General Plan Climate Element, require environmental review and a public review and approval process. County staff have prepared and posted an Initial Study/Negative Declaration for the Draft General Plan Climate Element (along with the CCAP) pursuant to CEQA and, together, these documents will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration in the Summer of 2022.

- June 22, 2022. San Mateo County Planning Commission hearing for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.
- August 8, 2022. San Mateo County Board of Supervisors public hearing to consider adoption.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Recommended Findings
- B. Reviewing Agencies
- C. Resolution Adopting the Negative Declaration for the San Mateo County General Plan Climate Element and Community Climate Action Plan
- D. Resolution Adopting the 2022 Climate Element of the San Mateo County General Plan, Replacing the Existing General Plan Energy and Climate Change Element, and Adopting the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan.
- E. Draft General Plan Climate Element. Also available [here](#). For reference, you may find the current 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element [here](#).
- F. 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan. Also available [here](#). For reference, you may find the current 2013 EECAP [here](#).
- G. 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan Executive Summary. Also available [here](#).
- H. Technical Appendix (includes responses to final public comment). Also available [here](#).
- I. Initial Study – Negative Declaration. Also available [here](#).

County of San Mateo
Planning and Building Department

RECOMMENDED FINDINGS

Permit or Project File Number: PLN 2022-00162

Hearing Date: June 22, 2022

Prepared By: Avana Andrade,
Senior Sustainability Specialist: Climate Action Planning

For Adoption By: Planning Commission

RECOMMENDED FINDINGS

1. That the Planning Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the proposed amendment to the General Plan Climate Change Element and Community Climate Action Plan is internally consistent with all other provisions of the General Plan.
2. That the Planning Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the General Plan Climate Change Element and Community Climate Action Plan would not be detrimental to the public interest, health, safety, convenience, or welfare of the County.
3. That the Planning Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the amendment will not have a significant effect on the environment, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, and adopt the Negative Declaration.
4. That the Planning Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors that it adopt a resolution to amend the San Mateo County General Plan Climate Change Element.

County of San Mateo
Planning and Building Department

REVIEWING AGENCIES

Permit or Project File Number: PLN 2022-00162

Hearing Date: June 22, 2022

Prepared By: Avana Andrade,
Senior Sustainability Specialist:
Climate Action Planning

For Adoption By: Planning Commission

REVIEWING AGENCIES

- Air Resources Board
- Caltrans Planning
- Coastal Commission
- Department of Conservation
- Fish & Game Region 3
- Department of Food & Agriculture
- Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- Housing and Community Development
- Native American Heritage Commission
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- Public Utilities Commission
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Resources Agency
- Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
- S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Commission
- State Lands Commission
- State Water Resources Control Board
- Department of Water Resources
- Redwood City
- Daly City
- San Carlos
- Woodside
- Menlo Park
- Burlingame
- Portola Valley
- Belmont
- City of San Mateo
- Millbrae
- San Bruno
- South San Francisco
- Foster City
- City of Colma
- East Palo Alto
- Town of Hillsborough
- Town of Woodside
- San Mateo County Planning & Building Department
- San Mateo County Department of Public Works
- San Mateo County Parks Department
- San Mateo County Environmental Health
- San Mateo County Local Agency Formation Commission

**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

DATE: June 22, 2022

TO: San Mateo County Planning Commission

FROM: San Mateo County Office of Sustainability

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Consideration of the 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan and update to the Climate Action Element of the County's General Plan.

County File No.: PLN 2022-00162 (County of San Mateo Office of Sustainability)

DISCUSSION

Overview of the Draft General Plan Climate Element and 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) Update.

The County began the process of updating the 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element and the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan in order to bring these policy documents into compliance with State law. This update process has led to the creation of the 2022 General Plan Climate Element and the 2022 CCAP. Included in this report is an overview of the components of the 2022 CCAP for San Mateo County's unincorporated areas. The report provides a high-level overview of the CCAP structure, sources of emissions, key emissions reduction actions that correspond to those sources, and the County's approach to ensuring public engagement and addressing racial equity in the CCAP. Equity, being a key priority for the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, serves as a cornerstone principle throughout the development of the Draft General Plan Climate Element and the CCAP. Additionally, the report provides information about the environmental review process, which yielded a Negative Declaration, information about how staff have ensured conformance with other County policies, and a recommendation that the Planning Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the Negative Declaration and the 2022 Climate Element and the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan.

There are two components to this update: 1) the Draft General Plan Climate Element and 2) the CCAP. The Draft General Plan Climate Element is an element in the County's General Plan and provides a higher-level framework for bringing about emissions reductions whereas the CCAP provides much more detailed information about climate change and the proposed actions for reducing emissions by 2030 and 2040. Neither document is legally required, however, both constitute the County's current policy mechanism for establishing and implementing an emissions reduction

plan. Developing an emissions reduction plan, whether it is part of a general plan or not, is legally required by the State of California.

The updated Draft General Plan Climate Element will replace the existing Energy and Climate Change Element adopted in June of 2013, which is out of date and no longer reflective of new State climate goals. The updated Draft General Plan Climate Element, which focuses exclusively on unincorporated communities and land, includes updated background information and updated policies and actions, which have been vetted through an extensive public engagement process. Going forward, it is being recommended that the CCAP and the Draft General Plan Climate Element be updated on an “as-needed” basis as more supportive and aggressive State legislation emerges in the coming years.

The County’s first climate action plan, the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan (EECAP), a companion plan to the 2013 General Plan Energy and Climate Change Element, established a greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) reduction goal that was consistent with the State’s Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill or AB 32), which set out to achieve 1990 GHG emissions levels by 2020, equivalent to a 15% reduction below baseline 2005 emissions levels. To keep pace with State law and policy and evolving climate science, the updated CCAP establishes a GHG emissions reduction target of 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality¹ by 2040. The CCAP includes updated climate science background, regulatory context, and policies and actions.

Below, Figure 1 provides a summary table of the four documents under consideration.

¹ Carbon neutrality is when a jurisdiction sequesters or removes from the atmosphere the same amount of greenhouse gases it produces, creating a net carbon neutral state. In order to meet this goal, the County must reduce emissions further, as well as sequester the equivalent of its remaining emissions.

Current Policy Documents			Updated Policy Documents		
<u>Document Name</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Frequency of Update</u>	<u>Document Name</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Frequency of Update</u>
2013 Energy and Climate Change Element	High level framework for emissions reductions embedded in the General Plan	Not updated since 2013, no required update timeline	Draft General Plan Climate Element	High level framework for emissions reductions embedded in the General Plan	As needed
2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan (EECAP)	Detailed plan for reaching emissions reduction goal	Not updated since 2013, no required update timeline	2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP)	Detailed plan for reaching emissions reduction goals	As needed

Figure 1. Summary table of documents under consideration.

Overview of the CCAP and Draft General Plan Climate Element:

Because the CCAP and Draft General Plan Climate Element are part of the County’s General Plan, a formal policy document, both documents must meet basic conditions listed below in order to be considered a “certified” plan and consistent with State law. According to State law and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the updated CCAP and Draft General Plan Climate Element will:

1. Quantify greenhouse gas emissions, both existing and projected over a specified time period, resulting from activities within a defined geographic area;
2. Establish an emissions reduction goal as well as a clear justification. This is also referred to as “substantial evidence” for *how* that goal will be reached. A local jurisdiction, therefore, must demonstrate the degree to which proposed actions will lead to the stated goal;
3. Identify and analyze the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from specific actions or categories of actions anticipated within the geographic area;
4. Specify measures or a group of measures, including performance standards, that substantial evidence demonstrates, if implemented on a project-by-project basis, would collectively achieve the specified emissions level;
5. Establish a mechanism to monitor the plan’s progress toward achieving the GHG reduction level and to require amendment if the plan is not achieving specified levels; and
6. Be adopted in a public process following environmental review.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

In order to meet the criteria establish under CEQA, the CCAP must track emissions from unincorporated communities. The GHG inventory provides the scientific basis for quantifying emissions reduction strategies and developing climate goals. The inventory tracks the GHG emissions originating from unincorporated areas that the County of San Mateo is responsible for reducing. Below, Figure 2. "Emissions reduction goals by 2030" displays the sector-wide 2030 emissions reduction goal in the center, the contribution of each sector to County's emissions profile in the colored ring, as well as the key areas of opportunity for achieving those emissions reductions by sector in the outer-most text. The CCAP emission reduction targets and strategies were designed to reduce emissions in these critical sectors. For example, the transportation sector accounts for 40% of the County's total emissions, and the County's vehicle fleet needs to include 18% zero emission vehicles and equipment by 2030 in order to reach the emissions reduction goal. The CCAP's organization and targets are oriented around this inventory.

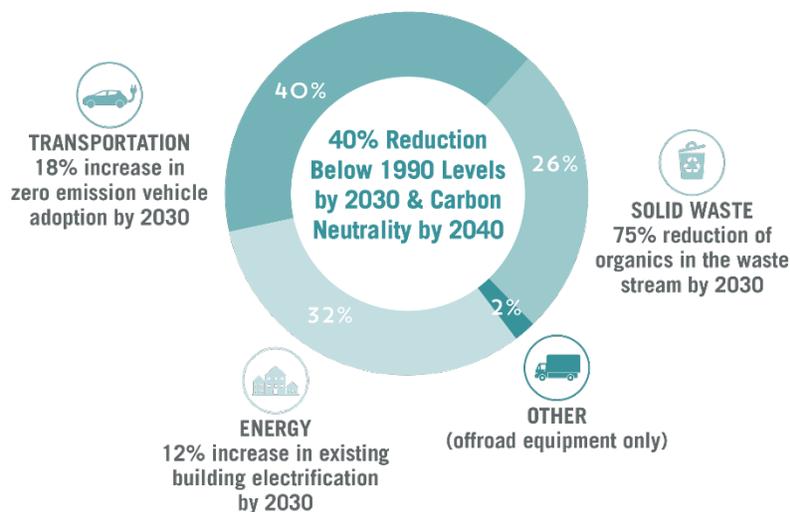


Figure 2. Emissions reduction goals by 2030.

CCAP Organization and Targets.

The CCAP is organized around the following sectors, which correspond to the emissions inventory (with the exception of working lands) with key targets in each:

- Building energy: strategies to reduce energy use and transition to renewable energy sources.
 - o Key outcome: Electrify 16% of existing buildings
- Transportation: strategies to shift to electricity and use transportation modes such as transit, walking, and biking
 - o Key outcome: 18% increase in zero emission vehicle adoption
- Waste and consumption: strategies to reduce waste generation, divert waste from the landfill, and purchase more sustainable goods and services.
 - o Key outcome: 18% reduction in organics in the waste stream
- Working lands and carbon sequestration: strategies to sequester carbon, enable regenerative agricultural practices, and support the local food system
 - o Key outcome: sequester 39,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e).

CCAP Key Implementation Actions.

Building on this organization and these high-level outcomes, the CCAP provides detailed actions and policy pathways to pursue upon adoption. The County has undertaken a range of activities to implement the EECAP, the most notable and impactful of which was the establishment of Peninsula Clean Energy. This ensures that San Mateo County has access to a clean supply of electricity making electrification of the building sector and the transportation sector a key strategy for reaching the ambitious climate targets in the CCAP. Building on that progress and foundation, the most critical implementation actions in the updated CCAP are electrifying existing buildings, reducing vehicle miles traveled by gas powered vehicles and increasing electric vehicle adoption rates, and supporting climate beneficial agricultural practice implementation. These actions have been vetted through an iterative public engagement process.

Public Engagement.

The updated Draft General Plan Climate Element and CCAP were developed using an iterative public outreach and engagement process, which included over 120 surveys, four pop-up events, fifteen virtual workshops and focus groups, over 70 briefings and interviews, two social media campaigns, two project announcements, an email notification list, an online open house, and three live virtual events. Through all of efforts, County staff reached over 1,000 community members in unincorporated areas on the coastside and bayside.

Equity.

The County recognizes the inextricable link between racial equity and climate change. Globally and locally, climate change threatens many of the populations who are least responsible for causing climate change, as well as those who are already experiencing disproportionate environmental, economic, and social hardships. The County aimed to prioritize racial equity throughout the planning process and embed racial equity in all measures through inclusive community engagement, targeted stakeholder consultation, and iterative evaluation of equity implications of proposed actions.

CCAP and Climate Element Environmental Review:

The County prepared an Environmental Impact Report for the EECAP adoption in 2013. County staff and technical consultants at Rincon prepared a tiered Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) document for the Climate Element and CCAP and determined that the proposed actions would not have a significant effect on the environment. The IS/ND was posted on the State Clearinghouse, the Half Moon Bay Review, the San Mateo Daily Journal, and the CCAP online open house for a 30-day public comment period of March 30 to April 29, 2022. No comments were received.

Consistency with Other General Plan Elements and the Local Coastal Program:

The amendment is consistent with General Plan Chapters and Local Coastal Program Components. County staff reviewed each proposed CCAP measure for overall coherence and consistency with County General Plan elements and with the Local

Coastal Program. Staff modified measures for consistency, discarded others due to inconsistency or redundancy, and identified future changes to the Urban Land Use and Transportation elements of the General Plan to bring those documents into alignment with the CCAP during a future update process.

Recommendation:

In light of the robust public engagement efforts and the comprehensive technical analysis undergirding the 2022 General Plan Climate Element and the CCAP, the report recommends that the Planning Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors:

1. adopt a resolution adopting the Negative Declaration for the 2022 San Mateo County General Plan Climate Element and the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan; and
2. adopt a resolution adopting the 2022 Climate Element of the San Mateo County General Plan, replacing the existing General Plan Energy and Climate Element, and adopting the 2022 Community Climate Action Plan.