

## CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

### 2021 Climate Action Plan Update – Recommendations

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#### SUMMARY

The Climate Change Working Group – comprised of residents, business, education, non-profit and utility representatives – has been evaluating new opportunities to help reach the Chula Vista Climate Action Plan’s greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goal of 55% below 2005 levels by 2030. As such, the CCWG has identified 7 action recommendations, below, that could help the city reach its 2030 goal, while improving local air quality, generating utility savings, reducing traffic congestion and promoting a more equitable and healthier community.

#### Climate Action Recommendations

1	Approve and implement zero waste plan recommendation to eliminate the use of single use plastics
2	Implement education and outreach in support of decarbonization in new construction and evaluate incentives and building code options to eliminate GHG emissions associated with building energy use
3	Review solar permitting process and revise where necessary
4	Implement education and outreach in support of clean transportation while evaluating appropriate codes that reduces fossil fuel usage
5	Ensure implementation of the Chula Vista Active Transportation Plan to increase protected bike lanes, or highest level of protection possible, focusing on where active transportations collisions have occurred
6	Adopt a Climate Equity Index to address disproportional impacts of climate change
7	Adopt GHG reduction goal of carbon neutrality by 2045

#### Background

Since the adoption of the 2017 Climate Action Plan (CAP), the Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) has been meeting quarterly to review current CAP implementation actions and potential recommendations for future CAP actions. As presented to the CCWG, the most recent greenhouse gas inventory shows the City on track to meet its 2020 goal with reductions below the 2005 baseline in all sectors except natural gas. Some implementation highlights include the adoption of the City’s Active Transportation Plan, the creation of the Chula Vista Climate Action Challenge and the adoption of a goal for 100% renewable energy by 2035 and an update can be found online at

<https://www.chulavistaca.gov/departments/clean/conservation/climate-action-plan>.

The

recommendations above are intended to help guide City leaders to reaching the City’s long-term goals.

### Planning Process

The CCWG was established as a working group of the City’s Sustainability Commission and includes a diverse membership of residents, businesses, education, non-profit and utility representatives:

Climate Change Working Group Members			
<b>Residents</b>		<b>Transportation</b>	
Edward Legaspi	CCWG Chair	Matt Lowery	Bike/Walk Chula Vista
Adriana Guevara-Gluyas	CCWG Vice-Chair	<b>Waste Management</b>	
Carolyn Scofield		Giovanna Castro	Republic
<b>Community Services</b>		Len Hering	I Love A Clean SD
Angie Guerrero	High Tech High	<b>Utilities</b>	
Carmen Richardson	CV Charitable Foundation	Eric Drabb	SDG&E
<b>New Development</b>		Clay Clifton	Sweetwater Authority
Nick Lee	Baldwin & Sons	<b>Environment</b>	
Rich D'Ascoli	Pacific SW Assoc. of Realtors	Fabiola Lao	Center for Sustainable Energy
<b>Existing Buildings &amp; Infrastructure</b>		Noah Harris	Climate Action Campaign
Eddie Price	Grid Alternative	<b>Staff</b>	
Lisa Cohen	CV Chamber of Commerce	Cory Downs, Yasemin Corrales, Coleen Wisniewski, Manuel Medrano and Dennis Gakunga	

Over the last two years the CCWG held 8 public meetings, including an online survey and public forums, to explore Climate Change related topics and hear from subject matter experts. Through this process the CCWG evaluated over 100 potential policies or programs before refining the final 7 recommendations. Some of the criteria that the working group used to make the selections were 1) focusing on actions that were in the City’s control, 2) limiting actions negative impact to the City and 3) prioritizing actions that could be implemented within 5 years. Based on the discussions and deliberations of the working group, the 7 recommendations above will help reduce GHG emissions and provide positive benefits to the community.

### Next Steps

The recommendations are high level and, if supported by City Council, will be further developed by City staff. Potential implementation actions for each recommendation are listed in Attachment A. Implementation steps, cost estimates, timelines and GHG reduction estimates, if available, for the various recommendations will be included in staff’s efforts to being required implementation actions to relevant commissions and City Council for approval.

Attachment A: CCWG Recommendation and Actions

CCWG Recommendations & Actions	
1	Approve and implement zero waste plan recommendation to eliminate the use of single use plastics
a	Study the impacts of adopting a single use plastic product ban on commercial entities and ways to mitigate negative impacts of the ban
b	Present an ordinance to the City Council to eliminate the sale and use of single use plastic products used for food and beverage consumption
c	Prepare and deploy a multi-year, multi-format educational campaign on the environmental benefits of eliminating single use plastics in our community
2	Implement education and outreach in support of decarbonization in new construction and evaluate incentives and building code options to eliminate GHG emissions associated with building energy use
a	Develop and initiate a comprehensive outreach campaign promoting decarbonization, including spotlighting model decarbonization projects
b	Conduct market analysis to evaluate the current new construction market and provide information on how different incentives and/or building code measures impact new development
c	Evaluate other jurisdiction and state decarbonization efforts and present at public event to solicit feedback
d	Based on evaluation and public input, prepare decarbonization recommendations to the City Council which could include amendments to codes and procedures
e	Evaluate potential for incentives to support building decarbonization projects
f	Hold regular stakeholder meetings with relevant groups, such as San Diego Building Electrification Coalition, San Diego Gas & Electric, San Diego Community Power, Building Industry Association and others
3	Review solar permitting process and revise where necessary
a	Review discretionary permits that may limit the ability for full commercial deployment and propose revisions to remove impediments to commercial deployment of solar
4	Implement education and outreach in support of clean transportation while evaluating appropriate codes that reduce fossil fuel usage
a	Develop and initiate a comprehensive outreach campaign promoting decarbonization, including spotlighting model decarbonization projects

b	Evaluate other jurisdiction and state decarbonization efforts and present at public event to solicit feedback
c	Based on evaluation and public input, prepare decarbonization recommendations to the City Council which could include amendments to codes and procedures
d	Prepare an inventory of the City's current clean transportation efforts (especially permitting streamlining initiatives) to evaluate implementation of the state's best practice guidance
5	Ensure implementation of the Chula Vista Active Transportation Plan to increase protected bike lanes, or highest level of protection possible, focusing on where active transportation collisions have occurred
a	Track and report on Alternative Transportation Plan implementation and areas of recurring collisions
b	Conduct a bi-annual community survey to evaluate perceived active transportation safety
c	Prepare, adopt and implement a Local Road Safety Plan
d	Evaluate specific transportation mode shift targets for biking, walking and public transit and hold public event to get feedback
6	Adopt a Climate Equity Index to address disproportional impacts of climate change
a	Launch Initiative to embed equity in City operations
b	Implement Climate Equity Index Recommendations
7	Adopt GHG reduction goal of carbon neutrality by 2045
a	Host public carbon neutrality and climate emergency stakeholder meetings
b	Develop resolution of carbon neutrality goal and work with Sustainability Commission on their interest in a potential climate emergency declaration for City Council
c	Adopt municipal goal for carbon neutrality by 2040
d	Adopt resolution preventing industrial fossil fuel infrastructure
e	Meet with City departments and stakeholders to create a municipal and community Carbon Neutrality Action Plan
f	Evaluate potential for Chula Vista carbon reduction projects to offset emissions of developments