

City of Sacramento
Sacramento Youth Commission Report
915 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814
www.cityofsacramento.org

File ID: 2024-01703

10/7/2024

Discussion Item 4.

Climate and Sustainability Update

File ID: 2024-01703

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Sarah Kolarik, Sustainability Analyst, (916) 808-1421, skolarik@cityofsacramento.org; Rachel Patten, Sustainability Program Specialist, (916) 808-5016, rpatten@cityofsacramento.org; Lucinda Willcox, Assistant Public Works Director, (916) 808-5052, lwillcox@cityofsacramento.org; Department of Public Works; Laura Tuller, Associate Planner, (916) 808-3546, ltuller@cityofsacramento.org; Vic Randall, Senior Planner, (916) 808-5530, vrandall@cityofsacramento.org; Community Development Department

Presenter: Sarah Kolarik, Sustainability Analyst, (916) 808-1421, skolarik@cityofsacramento.org, Public Works Department; Laura Tuller, Associate Planner, (916) 808-3546, ltuller@cityofsacramento.org, Community Development Department

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

Additional Description/Analysis

Issue Detail: The purpose of this presentation is to provide the Sacramento Youth Commission (SYC) an update on the City's climate action efforts, specifically those that are led and implemented by the Office of Climate Action and Sustainability (OCAS) and the Climate & Sustainability team in the Community Development Department's Long Range Planning section.

OCAS leads the City's efforts to address climate change, advancing and accelerating progress to a resilient, carbon-zero future. OCAS works closely with City departments and the Sacramento community to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change, through implementing projects and policies and institutionalizing action within City processes. Strategies encompass City operations as well as broader infrastructure, people, buildings, and the natural environment.

Long Range Planning is responsible for developing plans, policies and programs designed to guide

the physical design and development of Sacramento. Long Range Planning includes a small team of planners that are focused on climate and sustainability planning; this team is responsible for the development and implementation of Sacramento's Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP).

In February 2024, the Sacramento City Council adopted the CAAP (Resolution No. 2024-0067). The CAAP was developed by Long Range Planning, with support from OCAS and in collaboration with every City department, through multiple years of analysis, outreach, and engagement. The CAAP charts a pathway to meet the City's goal of achieving carbon neutrality in Sacramento by 2045, as established by the City's climate emergency declaration (Resolution No. 2019-0465). The CAAP also includes a Vulnerability Assessment that identifies and analyzes how climate change effects such as extreme heat, wildfire smoke, and increased flood risk are expected to impact Sacramento, and provides policy direction to guide adaptation to those impacts to protect the health and well-being of Sacramentans.

Together, OCAS and Long Range Planning are advancing many strategies from the recently adopted CAAP to address the impacts of and reduce the city's contributions to climate change. High impact strategies include:

- Reducing the production of climate pollution through building policies and codes that encourage or require efficiency and electrification.
- Implementing transportation programs and infrastructure to make it easier to walk, bike, and take transit while decreasing reliance on burning gas to get around.
- Planting trees to capture carbon, provide shade, mitigate the urban heat island effect, and improve air quality, with a focus on under-canopied areas.
- Updating the Sacramento City Code, development standards and design guidelines to ensure that new development is resilient to projected climate impacts.

Supporting youth involvement and leadership in advancing climate action within the City is an important element of the CAAP policy direction and OCAS's strategic plan. Both OCAS and Long Range Planning seek to engage youth in projects whenever possible, including working with schools on urban forestry and neighborhood resilience projects, developing school curriculum about air quality and climate hazards, presentations and collaboration with the Summer at City Hall program, and a Climate Ambassador summer internship program with high school and transition-aged youth.

Achieving our climate goals will require coordinated action by the whole community. The CAAP therefore includes Chapter 9 "Community Action and Sustainability" which provides information on actions that community members can take to help reduce climate pollution and improve our community's health.

Staff will return to SYC in the coming year with specific in-depth presentations on some of the climate

efforts that are in process, including planning efforts to advance transportation adaptation.

Policy Considerations: The work presented in this staff report broadly reflects CAAP direction and is consistent with the following 2040 General Plan and CAAP policies:

Environmental Resources and Constraints (ERC)-9: Climate leadership and bold action to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045, aggressively reduce emissions by 2030, and increase climate resilience communitywide.

ERC-9.1 Communitywide GHG Reduction. The City shall implement the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), a qualified greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction plan that meets the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines 15183.5(b), to reduce community and municipal emissions consistent with the state's GHG reduction goals.

Environmental Justice (EJ) - 1: Clean air, water, and soil with no segment of the community disproportionately burdened by environmental conditions.

CAAP Goal A-1: Strengthen City government capacity for integrated, holistic climate adaptive strategies and to reduce climate risks.

CAAP Goal A-5: Increase community resilience to prepare for climate impacts.

ERC-9.4 Carbon-Neutral Buildings. The City shall work to transition fossil fuel powered buildings to electric power communitywide, implementing a phased strategy that targets new construction starting in 2023 and progressively incorporating measures to ensure the electric powered retrofit of existing buildings by 2045.

Economic Impacts: Not Applicable.

Environmental Considerations: This informational update is an administrative activity and is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), per Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).

Sustainability: Sustainability is at the core of the City's climate action efforts, driving initiatives that reduce climate pollution, protect public health, conserve natural resources, and promote resilience in the face of climate change impacts. By prioritizing sustainable land use, transportation, building practices, and urban forestry, the City aims to create a healthier, more equitable community for current and future generations.

Commission/Committee Action: The Climate Action & Adaptation Plan was adopted by City Council on February 27, 2024.

Rationale for Recommendation: Not Applicable.

Financial Considerations: Not Applicable.

Local Business Enterprise (LBE): Not applicable.