
CITY OF SAN DIEGO'S DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

POSITION

The Chamber's Energy & Water Committee voted unanimously to support the overall targets set forth in the Draft Climate Action Plan and the approach taken by the Mayor's office. The Public Policy Committee also voted to support the Plan in concept, adding that an ad hoc committee will be created to provide input and that the Plan should take cost into account and have a sufficient amount of environmental review to make further actions ministerial.

STATUS

The Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) was presented to the City's Committee on the Environment on October 8, 2014 as an information item.

SUMMARY

Mayor Faulconer's Draft CAP includes:

- Incremental greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets for 2020 and 2035 that will keep the City on track to meet state-mandated targets in 2050.
- Creation of an ordinance that would require sellers to disclose a property's energy and water usage. This replaces energy and water retrofit mandates included in previous versions.
- Creation of an ordinance that would require new construction install conduits for solar and EV charging stations. This replaces a previous requirement that all new residential and commercial buildings be Net Zero Energy by 2020 and 2035, respectively.

October 2014

Overview:

The San Diego City Council (Council) approved the City's first Climate Action Plan in 2005, and a commitment to update it followed in 2008.

The Draft CAP aims to eliminate half of all GHG emissions by 2035, incrementally, and meet a 100 percent renewable energy target by 2035.

Energy and water retrofit and Net Zero Energy mandates have been removed from the CAP.

Council will review the final version following CEQA review. Comments can be sent to Brian Schoenfisch at bschoenfisch@sandiego.gov.

- More options to achieve the 100 percent renewable energy goal set forth in earlier versions, rather than simply requiring adoption of Community Choice Aggregation.
- Goal of reducing commutes by two miles per trip through improved Transit Oriented Development.
- A Zero Waste plan that calls for a 75 percent waste diversion rate by 2020 and 90 percent diversion by 2035.

ANALYSIS

In 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger issued an Executive Order calling for a reduction in GHG's to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. Council approved the City's first Climate Action Plan in 2005, and a commitment to update it followed in 2008. The Draft CAP aims to eliminate half of all GHG emissions by 2035, incrementally, and meet a 100 percent renewable energy target by 2035. The CAP also seeks to improve mobility, reduce gas consumption, implement smart growth principles, and promote alternative travel. In so doing, the CAP will lead to additional green jobs.