



CHAPTER

1

Introduction

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1.1 CLIMATE ACTION PLAN OVERVIEW

Over the past decade our understanding of global climate change and the role that communities can play in addressing it has grown tremendously. There has been a rise in temperatures associated with global climate change that has profound implications for the availability of the natural resources on which economic prosperity and human development depend. The changing climate also has potentially severe economic, health, social, and environmental consequences for us close to home.

This Climate Action Plan (Plan) presents information demonstrating that climate change poses real risks to Sacramento's economy and to the health and safety of its residents. While climate change is a threat to our community, our response to this challenge presents opportunities to create a more sustainable Sacramento that is livable, equitable, and economically vibrant. Beyond the benefits of local climate action, the impacts associated with climate change make action at all levels an urgent and absolute necessity.

This Plan details steps that the City – in coordination with its residents, businesses, and partners – will use to address the challenges of a changing climate and to reduce Sacramento's contribution. Everyone in Sacramento and beyond has a role to play in implementing the Plan.

While based on extensive research and analysis, this Plan is a snap-shot in time. It uses the best information available today. As new technologies, markets, and options emerge, roles may change. A strategy identified today may become obsolete in light of the development of new technologies that are not currently available, or State and Federal laws may be enacted that were not conceivable at this time. The overarching goal of this Plan, however, remains the same: to reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and prepare for climate change.



*I strongly believe Sacramento
can be the national leader in
the green movement.
- Mayor Kevin Johnson*

1.2 INTRODUCTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE

Scientists, business leaders, and heads of government around the world agree that climate change is one of the most serious issues facing the Earth today. There is strong consensus that most of the changes in the world's climate during the last 50 years are a result of man-made GHG emissions. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, "most of the observed increase in global average temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in human GHG concentrations." Climate change has resulted in increasing air and ocean temperatures, melting polar ice, shrinking mountain snow packs, and rising sea levels. These trends represent serious threats to the health of people, economies, and environments across the globe.

The Greenhouse Effect and Global Warming

The greenhouse effect is a natural phenomenon that helps regulate the Earth's temperature. Naturally occurring levels of GHG emissions keep temperatures on Earth stable. As the Sun warms the earth, about half its solar radiation is absorbed by the Earth's surface, warming it. The rest is reflected back toward space by the Earth's surface and atmosphere (e.g., clouds). Some of this reflected radiation passes through the Earth's atmosphere back into space, but most is trapped by GHGs and clouds. Naturally, the solar radiation absorbed by the Earth and the atmosphere warms the planet. In fact, this absorbed radiation, or heat, keeps the earth's average temperature almost 60 degrees (F) warmer than it would be otherwise.

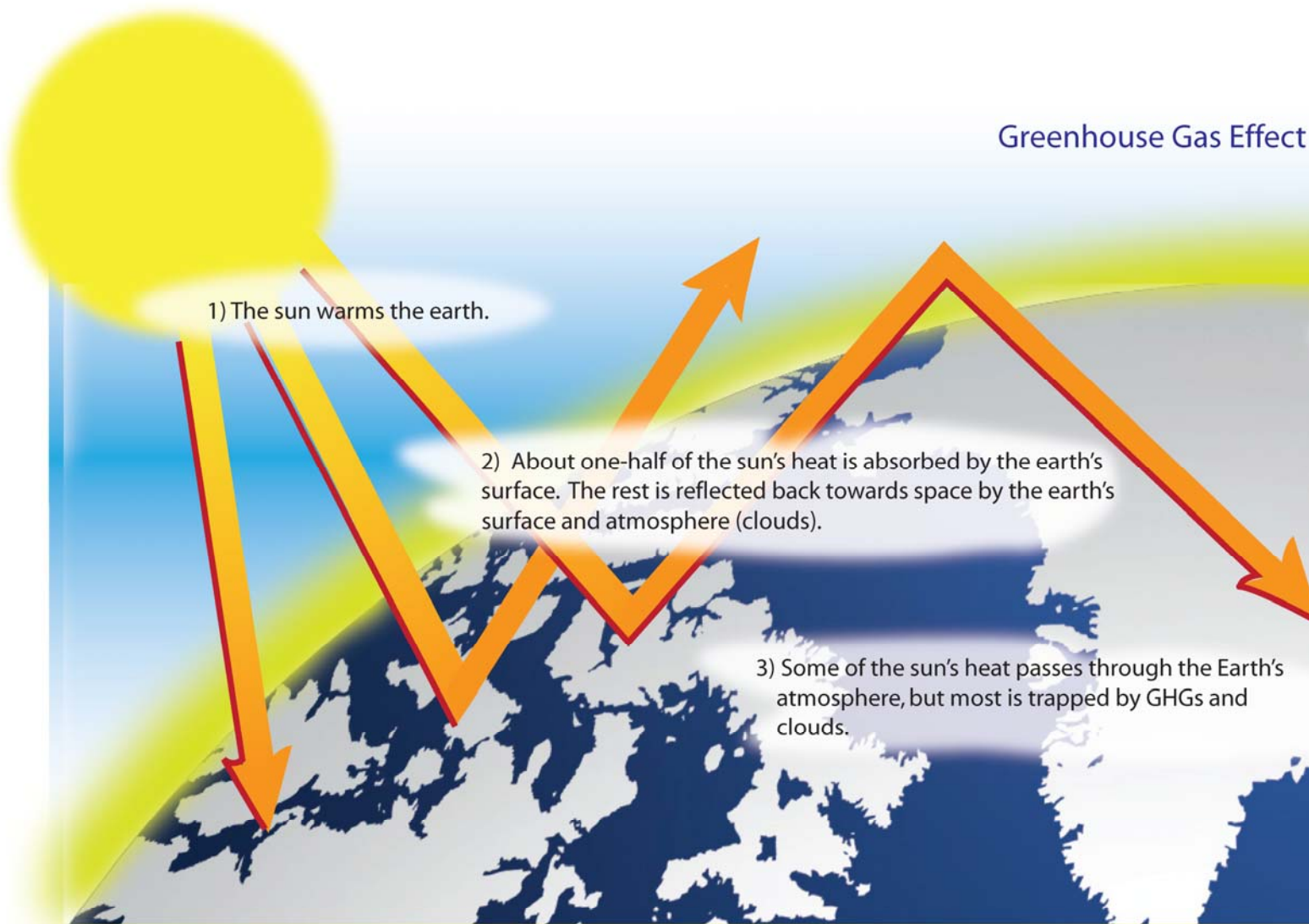
However, the unnatural increase of GHGs intensifies the greenhouse effect. The burning of fossil fuels for transportation and energy and increasing rates of deforestation and development increase the amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and other heat-trapping gases in our atmosphere. As the amount of GHGs in the atmosphere increase, less heating radiation from the sun and Earth can pass through the atmosphere back into space. As more GHGs are trapped in the atmosphere, the Earth's average temperature increases above what it would normally be. Compounding this trend is the rapid rate at which human-generated GHG increases have occurred. The resulting effect is global warming that creates major climatic changes. Chapter 2 of this Plan summarizes Sacramento's GHG emissions that are contributing to global warming in California and the city of Sacramento.

Global Climate Change

Left unchecked, global warming can lead to significant fluctuations in regional climates, which can lead to detrimental impacts on the Earth's systems. The magnitude of these changes, however, is uncertain. Virtually all published estimates of how the climate could change in the future are produced by computer models of the Earth's climate system. However, we are already seeing some effects of global warming.

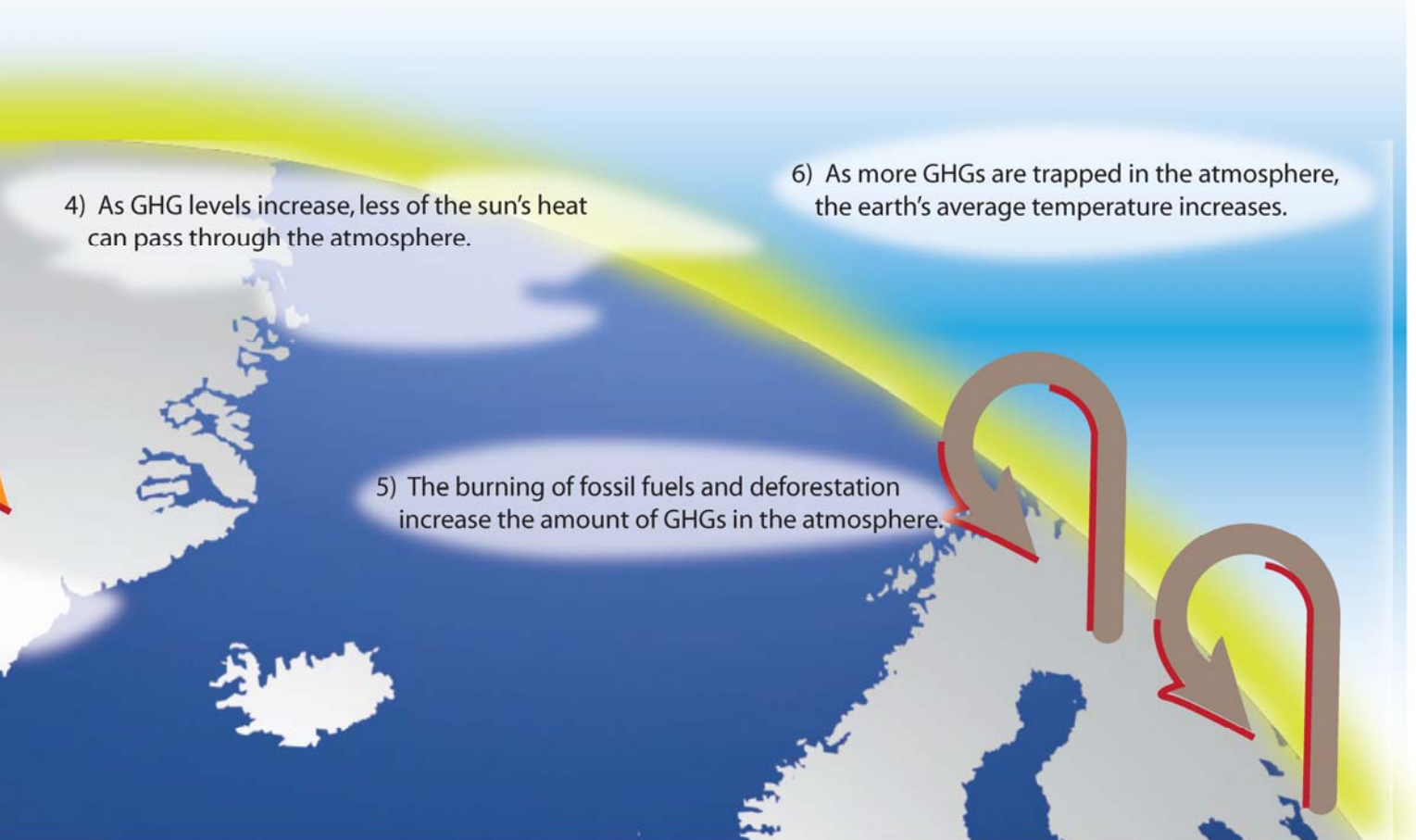
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For example, the Arctic ice cap is melting at a rate faster than scientists predicted, a process that is expected to raise sea levels enough to have devastating impacts on coastal communities. Globally, millions of people and thousands of species of plants and animals are expected to be affected. Closer to home, scientists expect that over this century climate change trends will continue and intensify, threatening California's valuable land, water, and other natural resources. Shorter, warmer winters, for example, are likely to decrease the Sierra snowpack, a major source of annual water supply on which many Californians depend for drinking water and other purposes. Longer, hotter summers in the semi-arid southern part of California could upend agricultural production and create ideal conditions for wildfires. Chapter 3 of this Plan summarizes the regional and local impacts that are expected to occur due to climate change.

& Global Climate Change



Addressing the Climate Change Challenge

This Plan represents an important step in changing the trends that are warming the Earth's atmosphere. Chapter 4 of this Plan includes strategies, measures, and actions to reduce GHG emissions and plan for climate change impacts. However, more action is needed, and must be on a broader scale if we are going to have a real impact. Through community support for the Plan, the 2030 General Plan, and other sustainability initiatives, Sacramento residents and businesses can inspire other communities throughout California and the nation to take action.



THERE IS NO TIME TO LOSE!

The technical analysis conducted as part of this Plan makes one thing clear: there is no time to lose. If Sacramento continues producing GHG emissions as it has in the past, emissions could increase 19 percent by the year 2020 and 57.1 percent by the year 2050. If the world continues on its present path, Sacramento residents can expect to experience more extreme heat in the summer, more heavy rain storms, less snowpack in the winter, heightened flood risks, public health impacts, and threats to the economy.

1.3 PURPOSE OF THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

In 2006 the State of California passed the Global Warming Solutions Act (Assembly Bill [AB] 32), which established a goal of reducing statewide GHG emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020. AB 32 set a mid-term GHG emissions reduction target, which seeks to move California toward achieving an even more aggressive, long-term reduction goal. Executive Order S-3-05, signed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005, directed California to reduce GHG emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. As part of its implementation of AB 32 and Executive Order S-3-05, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) identified local governments as a key partner in achieving statewide GHG emissions reduction targets and goals. Since 2006 communities throughout California have been preparing climate action plans to do their part to help meet State GHG emissions reduction targets.

However, GHG emissions are not the only concern that climate change poses to our communities. Scientists agree that, regardless of the reasons, our global climate is changing. Seasons are shifting, temperatures are fluctuating, and sea levels are rising. Without efforts to reduce emissions by communities throughout the U.S. and other countries throughout the world, we can expect climate change impacts in and around Sacramento and the globe to continue to escalate. Even if GHG emissions were significantly reduced today, the emissions that have already been put into the atmosphere are expected to continue global warming trends through the end of this century. To help guide efforts to adapt to expected statewide climate change impacts, the State prepared the California Climate Adaptation Strategy (2010). Regionally, however, climate change impacts pose specific risks and threats to Sacramento's economy, residents, and ecosystems. Local and regional actions are needed to plan for these risks and mitigate potential impacts that are expected to occur.

Recognizing its role in this effort, the City of Sacramento 2030 General Plan (2009) included goals and policies directing the City to be proactive in addressing climate change. General Plan policies and programs direct the City to develop, adopt, and maintain a climate action plan for municipal operations and the community. In February 2010 the City prepared Phase 1 of its Climate Action Plan to address GHG emissions from its internal municipal operations. The second phase of the City's Plan focuses on communitywide climate change issues for areas within the City limits. It is a dual-purpose plan that addresses two major climate change challenges: reducing global warming-causing GHG emissions resulting from human activities; and planning for the expected impacts from climate change resulting from global warming.

This Plan sets a course of action for Sacramento to achieve a 15 percent reduction below its 2005 GHG emissions level by the year 2020. This is consistent with State expectations for Sacramento; ARB recommends a minimum 15 percent reduction target to maintain consistency with AB 32. Specifically, according to the *Climate Change Scoping Plan* (December 2008):

“ARB encourages local governments to adopt a reduction goal for municipal operations emissions and move toward establishing similar goals for community emissions that parallel the State commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 15 percent from current levels by 2020.”

The 2020 target is far enough in the future to allow time for development and behavioral changes, but close enough to ensure we are on the right course to achieve longer-term GHG reduction goals to avoid the worst impacts from climate change. Beyond the mid-term target, this Plan sets us on a path to continue reducing GHG emissions consistent with longer-term goals for 2030 and 2050. The Plan also identifies strategies and actions that we can take to prepare for and mitigate the expected impacts from climate change. These efforts are timely because we are only now beginning to experience the effects of a warming climate and still have time to prepare. These adaptation efforts will position Sacramento to be more resilient to climatic changes and protect the health and safety of residents and businesses.

To achieve these objectives, this Plan identifies the following:

- Main sources of GHG emissions and the expected regional impacts from climate change.
- Baseline GHG emissions and the potential growth of these emissions over time.
- GHG emission targets and goals to reduce the community’s contribution to global warming.
- Strategies, measures, and actions to comply with statewide GHG reduction targets and goals and to adapt to climate change impacts.
- Areas in which to strategically direct funding and investment opportunities, while positioning the City to compete for grant funding.

EVALUATING THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

As part of Climate Action Plan evaluation, each strategy, measure, and action must be continually assessed and monitored. Annual reporting on the status of implementation of the actions, periodic updates to the GHG emissions inventory, and other monitoring activities will help to ensure that the CAP is making progress. See Sections 4.5 and 4.6 for more information on administering, implementing, and monitoring the Plan.

This Plan addresses two major climate change challenges: reducing global warming-causing GHG emissions and planning for the expected impacts from climate change.



Major Sustainability and

Sacramento becomes a member of the ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability to promote climate protection, sustainable development, and GHG emissions reductions.			City adopts 14 "Principles for Smart Growth" as part of the 1988 General Plan to promote more sustainable development patterns.	City joins, as a charter member, the California Climate Action Registry, an organization promoting early actions to reduce GHG emissions.			City adopts the Vision and Guiding Principles that provide a framework for the 2030 General Plan Update process and sets the city on a path to be a model of sustainable development.	City Council authorizes Mayor Heather Fargo to sign the United Nations Charter Urban Environmental Accords to achieve urban sustainability, promote healthy economies, advance social equity, and protect the world's ecosystems.
1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 Executive Order S-3-05 establishes goals to reduce statewide GHG emissions to 2000 levels by 2010, to 1990 levels by 2020, and to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.	2006 The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) requires that statewide GHG emissions be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020 and directs CARB to prepare a plan to achieve the target.

When I sign AB 32 we will begin a bold new era of environmental protection here in the State of California that can change the course of history.

- Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

1.4 ACTIONS BEING TAKEN TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

The City has already demonstrated its commitment to addressing climate change and reducing GHG emissions. Over the past decade the City has proactively participated in a series of partnerships and formal agreements with other jurisdictions in California and the rest of the nation. With the passage of the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) in 2006 and prior and subsequent legislation and implementing guidelines, new focus was placed on local governments addressing GHG emissions reductions and climate change through focused programs and efforts, including climate action plans.

Many other Federal, State, and regional laws and regulations are relevant to Sacramento's climate change planning. They support the intent and purpose of the City actions and climate change legislation discussed above and indirectly influence implementation of the Plan. However, they will result in furthering efforts to reduce GHG emissions and mitigate climate change impacts. A complete list of California Legislation and Governor's Executive Orders on climate change can be found online on the California Climate Change Portal (<http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/publications/legislation.html>).



Climate Change Initiatives

<p>City signs the United States Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement to reduce carbon emissions consistent with the Kyoto Protocol international agreement.</p>			<p>City adopts Phase 1 of the City of Sacramento Climate Action Plan to reduce GHG emissions from the City's internal government operations.</p>	
<p>City adopts the Sustainability Master Plan to guide future operational and policy decisions to create a more sustainable city. Every year since adopting the Plan, the City has prepared and adopted Sustainability Implementation Plans.</p>	<p>City adopts the Parks and Recreation Sustainability Plan to manage and operate parks and recreation facilities and programs in a more sustainable manner</p>	<p>City adopts the 2030 General Plan, which includes goals and policies that guide the City's approach to comprehensively address sustainability and climate change.</p>	<p>Mayor Kevin Johnson launches the Greenwise Sacramento initiative that results in a Regional Action Plan that includes goals to create a self sustaining region; become the greenest region in the country; and brand the Sacramento region as the "Emerald Valley."</p>	<p>City initiates Phase 2 of the Sacramento Climate Action Plan to reduce GHG emissions from communitywide actions.</p>
<p>2007</p> <p>SB 97 directed the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to update the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines to include guidance on addressing GHG emissions in environmental review documents.</p>	<p>2008</p> <p>SB 375 requires MPOs to prepare Sustainable Communities Strategies that plan regional transportation systems to reduce vehicle miles traveled and GHG emissions for cars and light trucks.</p> <p>Executive Order S-13-08 requires development of a Climate Adaptation Strategy that directs statewide management of climate impacts from sea level rise, increased temperatures, shifting precipitation, and extreme weather events.</p>	<p>2009</p> <p>The Air Resource Board adopts the Climate Change Scoping Plan outlining the State's plan to achieve GHG reductions required by AB 32 and provides direction for local governments.</p> <p>The Natural Resources Agency adopts the California Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.</p>	<p>2010</p> <p>The Natural Resources Agency adopts updated CEQA guidelines that provide direction on addressing GHG emissions in environmental review documents.</p>	<p>2011</p>



Our vision is to transform Sacramento into the Emerald Valley. We want to make this the greenest region in the country.
 - Mayor Kevin Johnson



Beyond helping to solve a global problem and protect our community, residents and businesses can benefit from the efforts outlined in the Plan.

1.5 CO-BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Beyond helping to solve a global problem and protect our community, residents and businesses can benefit from the efforts outlined in the Plan. While the actions included in the Plan are generally oriented towards reduction of GHG emissions, many of them will achieve important “co-benefits.” For example, a major co-benefit of implementing the Plan will be fewer toxic emissions, leading to better air quality and improved health for everyone. Two other key strategies identified in the Plan are to raise the energy and water-use efficiency of buildings and reduce the amount of time we spend traveling in cars. Energy and water efficiency will save residents and businesses money, and lower our housing and operation costs. Additional money available to residents and businesses will boost our local and regional economy and help to create jobs, especially for local businesses. Finally, the plan emphasizes opportunities for people to live closer to our jobs, schools, and services, which will allow us to drive less, save money, spend more time with family and friends, and enjoy a better quality of life. Each Strategy included in Chapter 4 of this Plan contains a list of co-benefits that can be achieved as we implement each measure and action. Appendix A includes for several actions the economic cost and benefits of implementation.

Streamlined Process for Sustainable Development

While the current development review process provides an approach for determining the significance of cumulative project impacts on climate change, it lacks clear, quantifiable solutions for development projects to reduce GHG emissions and mitigate for climate change impacts. The Plan will provide the basis for a streamlined approach to demonstrate project compliance with CEQA.

The City will also develop a Green Development Code that will serve as a key implementation vehicle for the 2030 General Plan, Sustainability Master Plan, and Climate Action Plan. The Green Development Code will benefit the development community by clarifying and simplifying regulations and improving the transparency and consistency of decision-making, while promoting and streamlining infill development that is consistent with the 2030 General Plan.

The Climate Action Plan will be used as part of the development review process to ensure that developers who follow City guidelines to produce more sustainable, compact, mixed-use, and efficient development have the benefit of a more streamlined development review process. It will provide strategies, measures, and actions that the development community can use to reduce their projects GHG emissions. Developers who use the Plan are likely to spend less time in review by the City and require fewer revisions and modifications.

ECONOMIC CO-BENEFITS

Implementation of the Climate Action Plan will provide many economic co-benefits to residents and businesses within the city. The following examples highlight some of the cost savings and job creation potential that can be achieved by implementing the actions in the Plan:

- The Residential Energy Conservation Ordinance (Action 3.2.2) will provide an annual energy savings of \$330 to \$420 for every household that participates and create 2-4 public jobs.
- The Commercial Energy Conservation Ordinance (Action 3.2.4) will provide an annual average utility savings of \$0.33 per square foot. It is anticipated that participating buildings could recover their upfront renovation costs in about five years.
- The Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Financing program (Action 3.2.1) will create up to 126 public jobs and 106 private jobs during the first five years of its implementation. Furthermore, building owners who participate in the PACE program are not required to front the initial capital costs.
- The Rental Housing Water and Energy Efficiency Program (Action 3.2.3) will create up to 13 public jobs and 207 private jobs during the first five years of its implementation.
- Action 3.4.1, which requires new residential developments of 10 units or more to install photovoltaic systems, will provide an annual average energy savings of about \$630 per household per year and create over 2,000 jobs.
- Action 3.4.2, which requires solar to be installed in new commercial developments over 25,000 square feet and industrial developments over 100,000 square feet, will provide an annual average energy savings of about \$10,800 per participating building and create about 69 private jobs.
- The SMUD Smart Grid program (Action 3.1.2) will result in a annual savings of \$11.5 million dollars for residential SMUD customers and \$25 million for non-residential SMUD customers. The infrastructure costs associated with the program will be recovered in about five years and create up to nine jobs for every \$1 million dollars invested.
- Implementation of the California Green Building Code Tier 1 provisions (Action 3.3.2) will result in energy savings for residential dwellings ranging from \$0.77 to \$2.01 per square foot. For office buildings savings are expected to range from \$0.59 to \$3.13 per square foot.
- The SMUD Home Performance Program (Action 3.2.6) will result in annual energy savings of \$330 to \$420 per household and create one public and eight private jobs.

The specific actions included here can be found in Chapter 4, Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Adaptation Policies and Measures. Details on the economic analysis conducted to develop these co-benefits can be found in Appendix A.



1.5 COMMUNITY ACTION

Although it may seem that an individual cannot have much of an impact on global processes, individual actions can collectively make a big difference. The key to effectively addressing climate change includes active, ongoing partnerships between residents, businesses, and City government.

Everyone in the community has a role to play in addressing climate change. Individuals and businesses can consume less energy and produce less waste by recycling, composting, conserving water, using public transit, and making homes and businesses more energy efficient. Small steps can make a difference for the future of Sacramento and our planet.

Everyone stands to benefit from the results of an effective climate action. Effective climate action will require new behaviors and ways of thinking, which can only be sustained in the long term by communitywide efforts to reduce waste and use resources more sustainably. The Plan serves as a resource that supports the efforts of government, individuals, and businesses. Together we can create a safer, more sustainable Sacramento, while increasing the number of jobs and business opportunities and energy independence.



1.6 HOW THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN WAS PREPARED

The City's Plan was developed in two phases. Phase 1, adopted in February 2010, addresses the City's internal government operations and identifies strategies to reduce GHG emissions in a cost effective manner in the City's municipal buildings, vehicle fleet, streetlights and signals, parks maintenance, water and drainage pumping, and other facilities and operations that are under the City's direct control. Chapter 4 of this Plan includes a summary of the results of Phase 1 Plan results and a complete copy of the Phase 1 report is included in Appendix B.

This Plan is Phase 2 of the City's climate action planning efforts. It focuses on reducing communitywide GHG emissions from activities within the City limits, as well as strategies to adapt to the effects of climate change. In partnership with the County of Sacramento, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), and other incorporated cities within Sacramento County, the City of Sacramento commissioned a joint study to develop a countywide GHG inventory, which was used as the baseline GHG emissions for this Plan.

The process used by the City for setting communitywide climate protection goals included the following steps, based on the 5-Step model framework for climate action planning developed by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI):

1. Confirm existing GHG emissions inventories for municipal operations and communitywide emissions for the baseline year of 2005.
2. Forecast future "business-as-usual" GHG emissions levels that would occur in the absence of the climate action plan for 2020, 2030, and 2050.
3. Calculate a GHG reduction target for 2020 and goals for 2030 and 2050, consistent with State laws, goals, and guidelines.
4. Identify expected regional impacts due to climate change.
5. Identify and quantify draft GHG emissions reduction and climate change adaptation strategies, measures, and actions.
6. Conduct a "gap-analysis" to determine if the draft strategies, measures, and actions achieve the preliminary GHG emissions reduction target. Adjust the target or the draft strategies, measures, and actions based on community input and direction from City Council.
7. Draft a Climate Action Plan that includes GHG emissions reduction and climate change adaptation strategies, measures, and actions and programs for ongoing monitoring and adjustment over time.
8. Conduct outreach and participation efforts at key milestones in the process to engage community and interested stakeholders.
9. Present the draft Climate Action Plan to City commissions and to the City Council for adoption.

The process used by the City was based on the 5-Step model framework for climate action planning developed by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI).



The Climate Action Plan Work Program kicked off in 2009. Phase 1 was completed and approved by the City Council in February 2010. Phase 2 of the CAP process initiated in April 2010 with an initial public workshop. By the following year, staff and consultants had finalized the GHG inventory and identified draft emission reduction targets and reduction measures. Stakeholder outreach meetings were conducted in Summer 2011, along with hearings at the Planning Commission and City Council. A Draft Climate Action Plan was released for public review on November 3, 2011. Staff held a public meeting on the Draft Plan on November 16, 2011, and a number of written comments were received from the public through the close of the comment period on December 9, 2011. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Draft Plan on December 8, 2011 and voted forward a recommendation of approval to the City Council. The final Climate Action Plan was adopted February 14, 2012.

Environmental Review of the Climate Action Plan

Climate Action Plans are considered a “project” subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because they are activities undertaken by a public agency that are subject to discretionary approval and may cause a direct or indirect effects on the environment. Senate Bill (SB) 97 clarified that GHG emissions are within the scope of environmental review. Climate action plans include

measures that can change the physical environment and influence land use and development patterns that affect GHG emissions.

The environmental review process requires local governments to identify and evaluate GHG emissions, assess the significance of the impacts of GHG emissions on the environment as compared to the existing conditions, and identify feasible alternatives and mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts. Local governments should also identify measures to monitor program progress and adopt the approved plan in a public process following completion of environmental review.

The Climate Action Plan implements policies in the Sacramento 2030 General Plan, approved in March 2009. The General Plan includes goals, policies, and actions addressing GHG emissions, sustainability, and climate change. This Climate Action Plan builds on the policies outlined in the General Plan; its preparation was called for in Environmental Resources Implementation Program #12. The Master EIR (MEIR) prepared for the 2030 General Plan adequately describes the impacts of the Climate Action Plan for the purposes of CEQA. Accordingly, a separate EIR for the Climate Action Plan is not necessary.

Environmental Review of Projects Under the Climate Action Plan

In response to the mandate of SB 97, the CEQA Guidelines (Section 15183.5) establish standards for the

contents and approval process of plans to reduce GHGs. The Climate Action Plan has been prepared consistent with those standards.

As a CEQA Section 15183.5-qualified plan, the Climate Action Plan affords development applicants the opportunity to use CEQA streamlining tools for analysis of GHG emission and related impacts for projects that are consistent with the Plan. Details on how projects can achieve consistency with the Plan can be found in Section 4.6.

1.7 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER CITY PLANS AND DOCUMENTS

Over the last decade, the City has adopted several key planning documents that promote sustainability and directly or indirectly address climate change. These prior plans provided background and resources for the development of the Climate Action Plan. Ongoing implementation of these plans will further the objectives of the Climate Action Plan. In many instances, specific programs and initiatives from these plans are included as actions in the Climate Action Plan.

In addition to the plans outlined below, the City has adopted several other planning documents and implemented dozens of programs and initiatives that are guiding Sacramento to a more sustainable future. A complete list of these can be found in the City's annual Sustainability Implementation Plans.

The following plans illustrate major efforts the City has established to further the objectives of the Climate Action Plan.

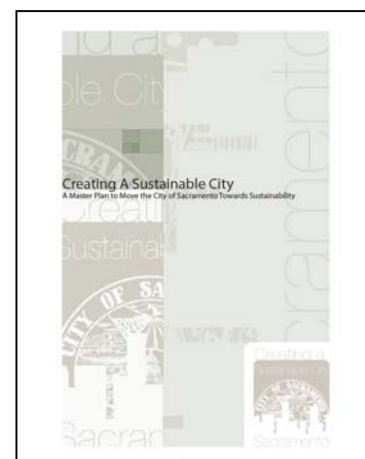
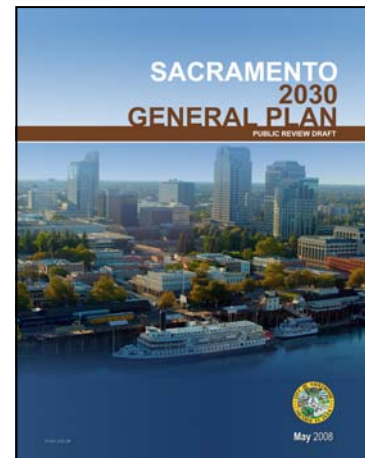
Sacramento 2030 General Plan

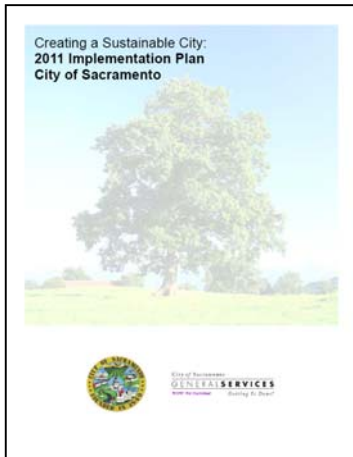
The 2030 General Plan provides the foundation upon which all future land use and public investment decisions are based. It is a guide for the development of the Climate Action Plan and all other planning documents, which must be consistent with General Plan policies. The General Plan includes goals and policies that guide the City's approach to addressing sustainability and climate change. The General Plan specifically identified the Climate Action Plan as an implementation program and a key mitigation measure for addressing and adapting to climate change. The existing General Plan goals and policies that are implemented by the Climate Action Plan can be found in Appendix C.

The Climate Action Plan is not part of the General Plan. Similar to other City-adopted plans and ordinances, the Plan is under the policy umbrella of the General Plan and must be maintained consistent with the General Plan. This structure allows the City to update the Climate Action Plan on an ongoing, as-needed basis without amending the General Plan. This approach ensures that Sacramento's climate action efforts can be more easily adjusted over time to effectively administer programs and policies and to reflect new legislation and emerging best practices.

Sustainability Master Plan

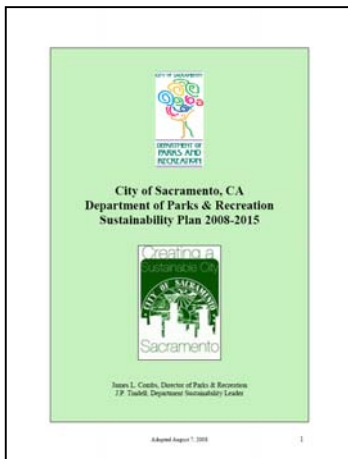
In December 2007 the City adopted the Sustainability Master Plan. The Sustainability Master Plan is a tool to guide future operational and policy decisions to create a more sustainable Sacramento. This Master Plan provides the policy framework to ensure that sustainability concerns are incorporated into the City's decision-making processes. It sets forth goals and long-term targets to guide the City and community toward reducing GHG emissions and promoting a greener path for doing business and for living. The Master Plan included the City goal of creating a Climate Action Plan as a tool to comply with the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32, 2006).





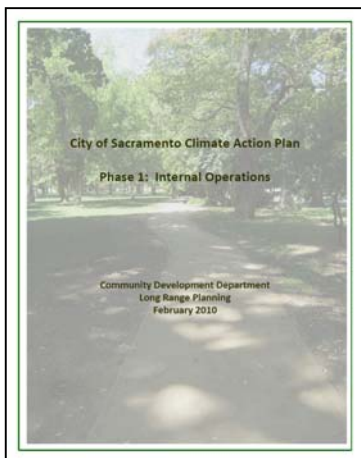
Sustainability Implementation Plans

Every year since adopting the Sustainability Master Plan, the City has annually prepared and adopted Sustainability Implementation Plans. These Implementation Plans are the City’s action plan for the next 12 months to move toward long-term sustainability targets. These Plans include previous year successes, short- and long-term actions for the next year’s actions, and 2030 goals. The Implementation Plans organize these actions according to the nine focus areas, identified in the original Sustainability Master Plan, which include: Energy Independence; Climate Protection; Air Quality; Material Resources; Public Health and Nutrition; Urban Design, Land Use, Green Building, and Transportation; Parks, Open Space, and Habitat Conservation; Water Resources and Flood Protection; and Public Involvement and Personal Responsibility. Because many of the Climate Action Plan strategies, measures, and actions address core sustainability issues, it is expected that the annual Sustainability Implementation Plan will be used to track and monitor progress in implementing the Climate Action Plan.



The Department of Parks and Recreation Sustainability Plan

In 2008 the City adopted the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Sustainability Plan to guide the Department’s efforts to implement the 2007 Sustainability Master Plan, City Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2005-2010, 2030 General Plan, and issues identified during the 2008 Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update. The DPR Sustainability Plan focuses on policies and actions to protect natural resources, open space, water corridors, and parkways, and to operate and maintain these resources in a more sustainable manner. The DPR Sustainability Plan functions as a supplement to the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, providing added focus on sustainability of the Department of Parks and Recreation programs.



Climate Action Plan, Phase 1: Internal Operations

Phase 1 of the City of Sacramento’s Climate Action Plan examines the City’s internal government operations and identifies strategies to reduce GHG emissions in a cost-effective manner in the City’s municipal buildings, vehicle fleet, streetlights and signals, parks maintenance, water and drainage pumping, and other facilities and operations that are within the City’s immediate control. This Climate Action Plan (Phase 2) focuses on reducing communitywide GHG emissions within the City limits, as well as strategies to adapt to the effects of climate change.