



CITY OF DEL MAR

City of Del Mar Climate Action Plan

On June 6, 2016, the City Council adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP), which is a detailed blueprint for the City to pursue its long-term goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The Climate Action Plan, primarily developed by the City's citizen-appointed Sustainability Advisory Board, identifies strategies to meet the City's targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and 2035.

Primary Purpose of CAP

The CAP has three primary purposes:

- To present the City's plan to achieve long-term environmental sustainability;
- Utilize resources effectively; and
- Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are generated by burning fossil fuels like gasoline, diesel fuel, and natural gas during the generation of electricity, and by using vehicles that run on this fuel. GHGs are the major cause of global warming. Del Mar's CAP aims to reduce GHGs by 15% by 2020 and 50% by 2035. It also includes a renewable energy goal of 50% by 2020 and 100% by 2035.

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Climate Action Plan identifies several ways to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions generated in the City. These measures can be classified in three categories:

Efficient Energy Use

- Achieve a 100% renewable energy supply for Del Mar;
- Install solar panels on rooftops; and
- Increase energy efficiency of buildings and homes.

Alternative Modes of Transportation

- Reduce single passenger vehicle trips;
- Make streets and sidewalks more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly; and
- Advocate for improved public transit service in terms of quality, frequency and route options.

Water Conservation and Reduced Waste Generation

- Reduce water consumption and waste generation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Convert to more water-efficient landscaping;

- Encourage usage of pool covers to conserve water;
- Support regional efforts to capture methane from landfills; and
- Promote expanded recycling programs.

Similarly, the City of Del Mar is working toward the goal of reducing GHGs by adopting water-efficient landscape ordinances, and promoting energy efficiency financing programs.

Priority areas for Phase I of the CAP Implementation Plan

The Sustainability Advisory Board has identified five priority areas for Phase One of implementing the CAP:

- Pursuing increased use of renewable energy sources, including exploration of community choice aggregation;
- Facilitating the planning and building application process for installation of photovoltaic panels and energy efficiency retrofits;
- Developing a zero-waste program/policy;
- Implementing a “complete streets” policy for arterial streets to encourage non-motorized mobility; and
- Implementing an urban tree planting program for carbon sequestration and shade canopy (which contributes to reduced energy demands).

For more information, please contact Clem Brown, Environmental Sustainability & Special Projects Manager at cbrown@delmar.ca.us