

# SUSTAINABILTY STAFF REPORT FOR SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION June 23, 2025

Activities since the Sustainability Commission's meeting on April 28 2025, are listed below. Activities are keyed to goals in the 2024 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
<b>Department of Conservation and Development</b>	
Staff received the fully executed agreement from the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) for the Senate Bill 1 Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning Grant on May 19, 2025. The grant of almost \$1.5 million will support the development of the Contra Costa Resilient Shoreline Plan. Staff released two Requests for Proposals for technical and community engagement subconsultants to support the development of the Contra Costa Resilient Shoreline Plan on June 6, 2025.	Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure
<p>Staff continues working to organize and plan the activities which will be funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG).</p> <p>Staff continues to work with a technical consultant, San Timoteo, to develop an inventory of existing buildings and cost analysis for transitioning the unincorporated County's existing building stock to all-electric to support the County's Draft Clean Energy Roadmap. San Timoteo has already begun work on this task. It is expected that the final Existing Buildings Inventory and Cost Analysis will be completed by the end of 2025.</p> <p>Staff will be working to execute a contract in July with CocoKids to work with County staff to partner and identify licensed home-based childcare facilities that are eligible for energy efficiency and all-electric transition retrofits.</p> <p>Staff will be releasing a solicitation in July to select an entity to implement energy efficiency upgrades for licensed childcare facilities. This task has experienced delays due to recent changes in Federal Government priorities.</p>	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment</p> <p>Goal 6 – Climate Equity</p>
The County has executed an agreement with the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI) on the budget and workplan for a \$750,000 grant to support development of an Urban Forest Management Plan. Staff are developing contracts with partners on the project (The Watershed Project, Sustainable Contra Costa, Civicorps, Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County). We received 5 bids to the Request for Proposals for a technical consultant. A decision should be made soon.	Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure
On April 15, 2025, the Sustainability Team hosted its second meeting of the Contra Costa All-Electric Working Group. A key focus of the meeting was to gather input and feedback on the Draft Clean Energy Roadmap for Existing Buildings which was released for public comment on March 25, 2025. The working group also finalized the logistics for future meetings and identified the Q3/Q4 meeting deep-dive topics to explore, <i>All-Electric Policies: What Works?</i> and <i>Education on the Benefits of All-Electric Buildings</i> .	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment</p> <p>Goal 7 - Leadership</p>

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
<p>In March 2025, the County accepted public comments on its <a href="#">Draft Clean Energy Roadmap for Existing Buildings</a>. The deadline to submit public comments was Thursday, April 24, 2025. During the public comment period, County staff hosted two virtual information sessions (April 9<sup>th</sup> and April 16<sup>th</sup>) for the public to learn more about the draft roadmap. County staff is currently reviewing all comments received and planning to take a Final Draft of roadmap to the County's Sustainability Committee for a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to consider for adoption later this year.</p>	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment</p>
<p>On May 1, 2025, the County received a Notice of Termination Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), cancelling the \$19 million Community Change Grant for the North Richmond Community Resilience Initiative. The County is contesting the termination and sent EPA a Notice of Disagreement and a Dispute on May 20. EPA has notified the County that it will issue a decision within 180 days.</p> <p>Urban Tilth, one of the grant partners, has more information about the North Richmond Community Resilience Initiative on its <a href="#">web site</a>.</p>	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure Goal 6 – Climate Equity</p>
<p>The County continues to implement the <a href="#">Bay Point/Pittsburg Energy Enhancement Pilot Program</a>, funded through a grant from the Keller Canyon Mitigation Fund. The Pilot Program offers rebates to cover up to 50% of the project cost (maximum of \$8,000) for the installation of qualified electric heat pump heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in eligible single-family homes. The first phase of the Pilot Program ends on June 30, 2025. Should funding remain available, the Pilot Program may be extended beyond June 30, 2025. Staff presented on the Pilot Program and opportunities to stack incentives with the BayREN Single-Family EASE Home Program at a variety of community meetings in East County.</p>	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 6 – Climate Equity</p>
<p>Climate Emergency Resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Just Transition</i>. Staff provided an update to the Supervisors of Districts I and V that include refining on June 16. On May 19, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that Contra Costa County was awarded \$1.2 million to lead a Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant. Grant funds will be used to develop a brownfields site inventory and conduct 14 Phase I and nine Phase II environmental site assessments. Grant funds also will be used to develop five cleanup and five reuse plans and support community engagement activities.</li> <li>• <i>Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force</i>. Staff provided a bi-annual update to the Board of Supervisors on May 20, highlighting community education through BayREN on induction cooktops, and training for County fleet managers on how to use electric vehicle chargers. The G3 Champion meeting on June 11 included a hands-on exercise for sorting recyclables and organics, intended for Champions to present to their colleagues.</li> <li>• <i>All-Electric Building Ordinance</i>. The new ordinance that amends the County building code to increase energy efficiency standards for newly constructed residential buildings, offices, hotels, and retail buildings to meet the County's Climate Action Plan goals went into effect on May 1, 2025. In April,</li> </ul>	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 7 - Leadership</p>

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
Sustainability staff assisted in preparing training materials and attended trainings with building department staff on how to implement the new ordinance requirements.	
Staff organized the second quarter Sustainability Exchange on May 29, 2025, on the topic of heat resilience and resilience hubs. The meeting featured two presentations. The first presentation was from the Office of Emergency Services and Health Services about the Extreme Weather Working Group and the County's present-day response to extreme heat events. The second presentation was from the County of Santa Barbara sustainability staff about their experience running a Resilience Hubs Pilot Program. Participants were invited to share how their jurisdiction or organization is starting to think about resilience hubs and their role in climate resilience.	Goal 7 - Leadership
Because the federal government canceled the Americorps program, the Sustainability Service Corps fellowship for Blake McPherson ended on April 28. The County has been able to hire Blake as a Student Intern through the summer. He will focus on updating the County's greenhouse gas emissions inventory.	All
<p>In the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jody London and Nicole Shimizu attended the Western Regional Meeting of the Urban Sustainability Directors Network June 16-18. Nicole presented on the BayREN induction cooktop program. Jody presented on the different methods the County and cities use to collaborate.</li> <li>Emily Groth and Nicole Shimizu attended the Contra Costa Mobile Monitoring meeting on May 1, East Bay Clean Air Coalition meeting on May 8, and East County Networking Group and Pittsburg Community Advisory Commission meetings on June 4 to update community members about the opportunity to layer the new BayREN Single-Family EASE Home Program with the Bay Point/Pittsburg Energy Enhancement Pilot Program.</li> </ul>	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment</p> <p>Goal 6 – Climate Equity</p> <p>Goal 7 - Leadership</p>
Sustainability staff continue to monitor state and federal grant opportunities and prepare to apply for projects that will support key climate goals around all-electric buildings, active transportation, sea level rise, climate resilience, and Just Transition.	All
<b>Health</b>	
<p><b>Building Healthy Communities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Walk and Bike Leaders (WABL):</b></li> </ul> <p>Through the spring, the CCH Building Healthy Communities (BHC) Program and its subconsultant partner Rich City continued to offer its high school active transportation programming in the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD), delivering walk and bike safety and encouragement activities at Pinole Valley High School (PVHS), Richmond High School (RHS), and El Cerrito High School (ECHS).</p> <p>At PVHS, WABL staff and student club members led a walking/hiking activity for students and families on the Ponderosa Trail, promoting physical activity and health. Club members from RHS, PVHS, and De Anza High also participated in a</p>	<p>Goal 4 – Clean Transportation Network</p> <p>Goal 6 – Climate Equity</p>

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
<p>Community Bike Ride from Richmond’s Lucas Park to the Landfill Loop, followed by a nature walk/hike.</p> <p>In celebration of National Bike Month and the Bay Area Bike to Wherever Day (BTWD) on May 15, BHC and Rich City organized BTWD events at PVHS, RHS, and ECHS. WABL staff, school personnel, and students hosted Energizer Stations, engaging with 65 cyclists, 8 scooter commuters, and 1 unicyclist, and distributed bike safety incentives and refreshments.</p> <p>Additionally, WABL staff conducted outreach workshops and bike safety clinics at ECHS and RHS as part of ongoing WABL programming, engaging Bike, Walk &amp; Hike Club members and the broader student body in hands-on learning and safety activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transportation Development Act (TDA) Grant:</b> Throughout the spring, the BHC Program provided local schools, agencies, and community-based organizations with bike and pedestrian safety resources and educational activities including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Helmet Distribution   Total Helmets Distributed: 250</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 110 at the Bay Point Bike Rodeo and Safety Fair</li> <li>▪ 60 to the Muslim Community Center (MCC)</li> <li>▪ 50 to Monument Impact in Concord</li> <li>▪ 20 to the Antioch Police Department</li> <li>▪ 10 at Dover Elementary’s Multicultural Day</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Bike Rodeos and Safety Education Events   Total Bike Rodeos/Hands-On Safety Events: 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Richmond Park Rx– bike rodeo and road safety instruction for kids and families</li> <li>▪ Bay Point Bike Rodeo and Safety Fair – supported with helmets and the Safe Moves Bicycle Trailer</li> <li>▪ Balboa Children's Center (Head Start) – bike rodeo for 27 parent-child pairs, including a CHP-led child car seat safety demonstration</li> <li>▪ Antioch Bicycle Safety Course – supported with helmets and safety materials</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Safety Presentations and Community Engagement Events   Total Presentations/Outreach Events: 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dover Elementary Multicultural Day – engaged students and parents with safety materials and helmet giveaways</li> <li>▪ East Bay MUD Resource Fair at RYSE Youth Center – promoted active transportation and pedestrian safety</li> <li>▪ Ongoing engagement with MCC to support pedestrian/bike safety education through resource provision</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Bike and Pedestrian Safety Resource Sharing   Safe Moves Bicycle Trailer Loans: 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Concord Police Department – for annual bike rodeo</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bay Point Bike Rodeo and Safety Fair</li> <li>City of Pinole Police Department</li> </ul>	
<b>Library</b>	
<p>The Library partnered with Sustainable Contra Costa and their Student Leaders In Action for a Climate Careers Chat program on March 27th. The Climate Careers Chats are interactive, quarterly events featuring a broad and diverse range of speakers from green-related careers who share their personal journeys with the audience. These free events aim to educate everyone—from students to seasoned professionals—about available green career paths and include a live Q&amp;A segment at the end of each program. March’s program featured Cat Kiser, an Environmental and Community Steward, and Avril Levasseur, Senior Associate at Point Energy Innovations. They shared their unique educational and career trajectories with the audience.</p> <p>The Library partnered with the Master Gardeners for four programs from March through May of 2025. These programs featured information on planting and harvesting berries, container gardening, firescaping, and edible landscaping. These programs were virtual with 1,400 people registered for the events through the library’s event’s page.</p> <p>The Library has 25 Outdoor Explorer Backpacks that have all circulated consistently through the last quarter with 72 current holds. We are in the process of updating the backpacks with new passes that will no longer expire.</p> <p>The Library has 36 Energy Efficiency Toolkits that have all circulated consistently through the last quarter with 2 current holds.</p>	Goal 7 - Leadership
<b>Ongoing</b>	
Staff participated in professional learning opportunities regarding environmental justice, carbon sequestration, climate resilience, communication and facilitation strategies, race and equity, and related.	All
Staff participated in regional activities.	All

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### Attachments

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