



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

AGENDA

Sustainability Commission

Jamie Duran, Business Seat 1
Susan Hurl, Business Seat 2
Luz Gomez, Community Seat 1
Howdy Goudey, Community Seat 2
Shoshana Wechsler, District 1 Seat
Kim Jones, District 1 Alternate
Victoria Smith, District 2 Seat
Christopher Easter, District 2 Seat Alternate
Norman Cohen, District 3 Seat
Julie Haas-Wajdowicz, District 3 Seat Alternate
Brandon Matson, District 4 Seat
Wesley Sullens, District 4 Seat Alternate
Solomon Belette, District 5 Seat
Reilly Kent, District 5 Seat Alternate
Devin Jackson, Education/Research Seat
Kiara Pereira, Environmental Justice Seat 1
Sarah Foster, Environmental Justice Seat 2

Monday, July 28, 2025

5:00 PM

1025 Escobar St., Martinez, Rm 110

|| SPECIAL MEETING ||

ZOOM LINK

<https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/85088039888>

| Dial: 888-278-0254 US Toll-free |

ACCESS CODE: 841892

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Commission

1. Roll Call and Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Commission and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).
3. APPROVE Record of Action for April 28, 2025, meeting [**25-2410**](#)

Attachments: [2025_04_28 Contra Costa County Sustainability Commission Minutes Draft Final](#)

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4. RECEIVE Presentation from Commission Member on using a Dashboard to follow greenhouse gas reduction implementation for the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan [25-2411](#)
Attachments: [CCCSC.GHG Tracking.Easter.0625](#)
 5. RECEIVE Progress Report from Staff on Dashboard for Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS [25-2412](#)
Attachments: [Attachment A - 2025_06_23 CAAP Dashboard](#)
 6. RECEIVE Presentation on co-benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel emissions from member of SF Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility [25-2413](#)
Attachments: [CCC SC July 2025](#)
 7. RECEIVE Report on Staff Activities that Support Sustainability Goals [25-2414](#)
Attachments: [2025_06_23 Sust. Staff Report to Sust. CMSN](#)
 8. RECEIVE Reports from Sustainability Commission members and alternates, and PROVIDE DIRECTION as needed [25-2415](#)
 9. RECEIVE Report from Sustainability Commission Chair and IDENTIFY TOPICS for next report to the Committee on Sustainability [25-2416](#)
 10. The next meeting is currently scheduled for August 25, 2025
 11. Adjourn

The Commission will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 30 Muir Rd, Martinez, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact: Commission Staff, Demian Hardman-Saldana, 925-655-2816, demian.hardman@dcd.cccounty.us



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2410

Agenda Date: 7/28/2025

Agenda #: 3.

Advisory Board: SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Subject: Record of Action for April 28, 2025, Commission Meeting

Presenter: Demian Hardman-Saldana, Principal Planner

Contact: Demian Hardman-Saldana (925) 655-2816

Referral History and Update:

County Ordinance (Better Government Ordinance 95-6, Article 25-205, [d]) requires that each County Body keep a record of its meetings. Though the record need not be verbatim, it must accurately reflect the agenda and the decisions made in the meeting.

Any handouts or printed copies of testimony distributed at the meeting will be attached to this meeting record. Links to the agenda and minutes will be available at the Committee web page, to be announced.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Staff recommends approval of the attached Record of Action for the April 28, 2025, Sustainability Commission Meeting with any necessary corrections.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

None.

Sustainability Commission

Present: Howdy Goudey, Community Group #2

Victoria Smith, District 2

Jamie Duran, Commercial Seat #1

Shoshana Wechsler, District 1

Brandon Matson, District 4

Kim Jones, District 1 (Alternate)

Norman Cohen, District 3

Susan Hurl, Commercial Seat #2

Reilly Kent, District 5 (Alternate)

Julie Haas-Wajdowicz, District 3 (Alternate)

Devin Jackson, Education/Research

Kiara Pereira, Environmental Justice #1

Solomon Belette, District 5

Christopher Easter, District 2 (Alternate)

Sarah Foster (remote participation via “Just Cause”)

Absent: Luz Gomez

Wesley Sullens

Staff Present: Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator, Dept. of Conservation and Development;

Jamar Stamps, Principal Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development;

Wade Finlinson, Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, Contra Costa Health Services;

Lia Bristol, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Supervisor Carlson;

Emily Groth, Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development;

Blake McPherson, Sustainability Fellow, Dept. of Conservation and Development

Attendees: Bruce “Ole” Ohlson, Andrea Bailey, Charles Davidson, Lisa Jackson, Richard Free

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Chair Wechsler called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm and invited the Commissioners and staff present to introduce themselves.

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Commission(s) and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes)

Bruce Ohlson of Pittsburg, also known as “Mr. Bicycle,” requested the Commission to ask Contra Costa Transportation Authority to consider adding bicycle lanes to Pacheco Blvd between Arthur Rd and Highway 4, particularly on the railroad underpass. Ohlson suggested paving the road to the concrete abutments and striking the narrowest vehicle lane on the underpass to create a shoulder for a bicycle lane.

Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator at Contra Costa County Dept. of Conservation and Development, responded that the comment will be passed forward with Public Works personnel, and the Commission could put this topic of the connectivity of the County's bike network on a future meeting agenda to act upon.

3. APPROVE Record of Action for February 24, 2025, meeting

Commissioner Smith moved to approve the Record of Action. Second: Commissioner Pereira. The Record of Action was approved. New Commissioners Duran, Jones, Cohen, Jackson, Belette, and abstained.

4. RECOMMEND the appointment of a Sustainability Commission representative to serve on the Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee

Wade Finlinson, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator at Contra Costa Health Services, conveyed the importance of the Commission's representative to the IPM Advisory Committee to the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors, which will meet the third Thursday of every other month, starting in September. The nominee would also work on a subcommittee focusing on nature-based solutions to look at strategies to help control pests on multiple fronts. The majority of work in IPM in Contra Costa County is vegetation management, often along streams, flood control channels, and open spaces. The Commission's representative to the IPM Advisory Committee does not need to be an IPM expert, but rather someone who will be a representative for the community.

The Commission deliberated over the potential nomination of Pereira and discussed the subcommittee meeting times and locations.

Smith motioned to nominate Pereira to the IPM Advisory Committee. Commissioner Kent seconded the motion.

The Commission voted unanimously to appoint Pereira to the IPM Advisory Committee.

5. RECEIVE Report on the update to the County's Tree Protection Ordinance and PROVIDE DIRECTION, as appropriate

Jamar Stamps, Transportation Principal Planner at Contra Costa County Dept. of Conservation and Development, provided a verbal update on the County's new proposed Tree Protection Ordinance. Stamps, prior to the presentation, mentioned that the Public Comment regarding the creation of bicycle lanes on Pacheco Blvd will be addressed in the future, as a project to create separate bicycle lanes in the area of interest is already planned with the start of construction pending the distribution of funds.

Stamps invited the Commission to ask general questions about the proposed ordinance.

The Commission inquired if Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (Con Fire), Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection District, the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, or any other fire districts

with unincorporated County coverage have reviewed the proposed ordinance. Stamps confirmed that Con Fire has reviewed the proposed ordinance but would need to check with other fire districts within Contra Costa County to confirm if they have reviewed the proposed ordinance.

Stamps explained that the ratio of planted replacement trees to trees removed under this proposed ordinance is 3:1. The current ordinance is outdated (not updated since 1994) and its definition of a “protected tree” is difficult to decipher. The goal of this proposed ordinance is to simplify the tree protection ordinance for permitting efficiency and clarify language for the public to more easily understand.

Stamps highlighted three tables in the Agenda Packet created to better understand the proposed Tree Protection Ordinance. Table 1 illustrates what types of trees are protected or excluded under this proposed ordinance. Table 2 illustrates how the proposed ordinance would apply. Table 3 compares the differences between the new proposed ordinance and the current ordinance through example scenarios.

Stamps explained that all native and non-native trees are proposed to be protected, with several exceptions for invasive trees or trees that present a high fire hazard risk. Many exceptions from the current ordinance with regards to permit requirements to remove a tree were carried over to the proposed ordinance, such as utility line trimming or if the tree presents an immediate hazard. Designated “heritage trees” are protected, which refers to an individual tree and not all trees of that species. The current ordinance’s permitting process does not align with several other similar permitting processes; therefore, the proposed ordinance is intended to follow similar rules to other current permitting processes. Certain criteria must be met for the tree to be granted for removal.

The Commission inquired if community input indicated other types of trees to be excluded from protection. Stamps explained that palm trees and a type of cottonwood tree have been highlighted by the public as trees that are negatively impacting communities but are not currently listed in the proposed ordinance. Commissioner Foster suggested adding Bradford Pear and Tree of Heaven to be excluded from protection under the proposed ordinance because they can host multiple invasive insect species.

The Commission inquired if the use of a tree as habitat for wildlife is considered a factor in tree removal permitting. Stamps noted to discuss that topic with other planners for the proposed ordinance.

The Commission discussed a suggestion that protecting all trees with specific exceptions may be too all-inclusive for permitting efficiency, and the County could instead manage a list of tree species for expedited permitting based on known qualities, such as hosting invasive species or increased fire hazard. This list of trees could be available to the public to let them know the permitting process for these trees is an easy, fast process to help ensure the correct process is followed. Commissioner Goudey also explained that the blanket approval of tree removal without review for homes in a very high fire hazard severity zone may be too far-reaching because living trees are not as large of a fire hazard in wildfires as dead brush and other dry, flammable material. The Commission suggested speaking with the County Council to ensure the ordinance

aligns with State law requiring vegetation to be removed within 5 feet of homes in very high fire severity zones.

The Commission discussed several administrative policies that could be included for this proposed ordinance. One suggestion was setting a guaranteed turn-around time to ensure the County follows through with permits in a reasonable amount of time, otherwise permitting fees are refunded to the applicant. The Commission discussed making the fine for cutting a tree down more expensive than the permit cost. Another suggestion was to require tree cutting service businesses to validate the property owner's County-issued permit before removing a tree.

The Commission discussed the proposed ordinance's enforcement ability to fine the property owners if a tree is cut down illegally instead of the person or business that cut down the tree. Outreach to the services was suggested to make sure they know the law, however holding the tree removal services accountable for illegally cutting down trees is out of scope for the County's code to enforce.

The Commission discussed possibly adding language to the ordinance to combat illegal dumping. Stamps noted that he would pass on that comment.

The Commission suggested adding language to the proposed ordinance under Article 816-6.204(a) to align with the County's goals of improving air and water quality within the County. Stamps agreed language of that sort should be added to the proposed ordinance.

Stamps referenced Table 2 and clarified the differences between coniferous vs. non-coniferous trees, developed vs. undeveloped parcels, and the definition of non-native trees. In Table 3, example scenarios are highlighted to illustrate differences between the current ordinance and proposed ordinance.

The Commission commented on four topics to clarify for this proposed ordinance. The topics included clarifying the purpose of the proposed ordinance, conducting adequate stakeholder outreach prior to and throughout implementation, ensuring the financial aspects of fees and fines make sense, and ensuring data will be collected to assess the effectiveness of the proposed ordinance.

Comments can be offered on this proposed ordinance through June 30, 2025.

There was no public comment on this item.

6. RECEIVE Report on Clean and Efficient Built Environment section of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and PROVIDE DIRECTION, as needed

Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator at Contra Costa County Dept. of Conservation and Development, provided a presentation on the Clean and Efficient Built Environment section of the County's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). Four themes are interwoven through both the General Plan and CAAP: environmental justice, community health, economic development, and sustainability. The CAAP's overall function is to serve as the plan to address climate change, presenting strategies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions within the County. Looking at

the GHG emissions inventory of the County, the built environment is the second largest GHG emissions sector at nearly 30% of overall emissions in the unincorporated County. To meet the statewide GHG emission reduction targets, a fuel source transition in residential buildings from natural gas to all-electric will be necessary.

The Clean and Efficient Built Environment includes community-facing programs like adopting new reach codes to install all-electric appliances in new buildings, as well as County operations like reducing water and electricity usage in County facilities.

London noted that under Strategy BE-1, Ordinance No. 2024-17 was adopted by the California Energy Commission going into effect on May 1. Ordinance No. 2024-17 will amend the California Energy Code to increase energy efficiency standards for certain newly constructed buildings. Strategy BE-2 is focused on existing building infrastructure. Strategy BE-2 is aligned with the County's draft Clean Energy Roadmap, pilot programs for all-electric appliances, and rebates for heat pump furnaces. Direct installation programs are suggested to be used in Impacted Communities where the model of rebate is not appealing. Strategy BE-3 encourages programs for the public and County to increase use of clean energy. Multiple developments are ongoing in the field of batteries and solar installations throughout the County.

Chair Wechsler recommended starting a working group to work with MCE to install solar arrays on Brownfields, particularly on industrial properties in the County. The Commission suggested having representation with private property owners on the possible working group.

Commission Discussion:

The Commission inquired about the possibility of the County increasing the amount of remote work to keep more gasoline-powered cars off the road to further reduce GHG emissions. London indicated that the County has a remote work policy for employees whose tasks can be completed remotely allowing up to 50% of their time to be spent working remotely per week.

There was no public comment on this item.

7. RECEIVE Report on Staff Activities that Support Sustainability Goals

Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator at Contra Costa County Dept. of Conservation and Development, presented specifics on County staff activities to support sustainability goals. The \$19 million Community Change Grant (CCG) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency has been suspended since January 2025, besides a small window in February in which the County pulled down funds to cover time worked on the grant to date. On April 15, 2025, a federal judge ordered all federal agencies to unfreeze funds associated with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act, which includes the CCG. The sea level rise grant from Ocean Protection Council is moving forward, as well as the Urban Forest Tree Management Plan.

8. RECEIVE reports from Sustainability Commission members and alternates, and PROVIDE DIRECTION as needed

This agenda item was skipped.

9. RECEIVE Report from Sustainability Commission Chair and IDENTIFY TOPICS for next report to the Committee on Sustainability

Chair Wechsler recommended the Commission to send potential topics for the next meeting in emails to her, with only one-on-one communication to comply with Brown Act regulations.

The topic of a GHG emissions dashboard for the County was recommended to be added to the agenda for the next Commission meeting.

10. The next meeting is currently scheduled for June 23, 2025

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

DRAFT



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2411

Agenda Date: 7/28/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Advisory Board: SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Subject: Presentation on using a Dashboard to follow greenhouse gas reduction implementation for the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Department: Conservation and Development

Presenter: Chris Easter, Commission Member (District 2 Alternate)

Contact: Demian Hardman-Saldana (925) 655-2816

Referral History and Update:

Members of the Sustainability Commission over the years have suggested that the County should consider maintaining an online dashboard that provides updates on climate action progress in a graphic format.

Commission Member Easter will provide a presentation to the Commission on this topic.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE Presentation on using a Dashboard to follow greenhouse gas reduction implementation for the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Fiscal Impact (if any):

None.

Outline

California's GHG Reduction Targets Road Map

Regional and Local Climate Action Plans

Data Visualization & Program Tracking

Climate Technology Financing

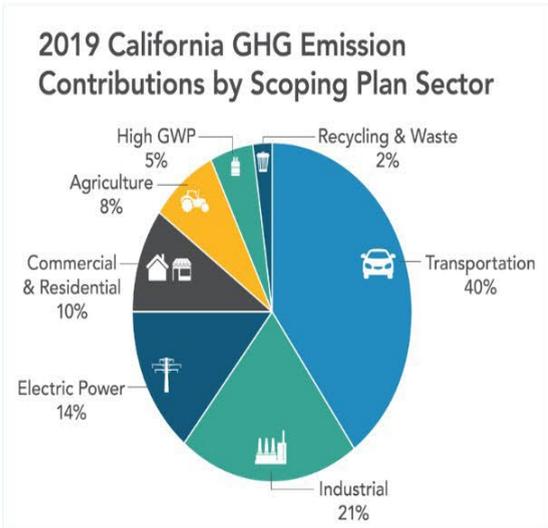
Q&A

GHG Emissions Targets Road Map



GHG Targets & Goals

Legislation & Executive Orders: Total GHGs (AB 32/SB 32) or sector targets (SB 1383/SB 100), etc.



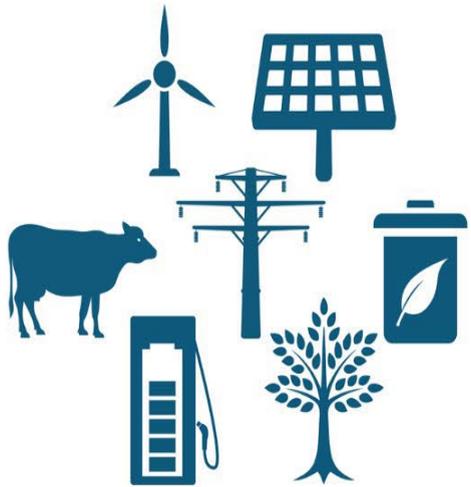
Scoping Plan

Actionable plan across all sectors



Action

Regulations & Incentives: Advanced Clean Cars, climate change investments, etc.



Projects

Examples: Zero-emission trucks, energy infrastructure and renewables, compost facilities, digesters, etc.

2022 Scoping Plan - CA's latest plan to achieve statewide climate targets



ACHIEVING
CARBON
NEUTRALITY
BY **2045**

GHGs included in statute: Carbon dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), Nitrous oxide (N₂O), Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), Perfluorocarbons (PFCs), Sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), Nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃).

2022 Scoping Plan's Ambitious Actions to Deliver Benefits

Unprecedented Deployment of Clean Technology and Nature-Based Climate Solutions

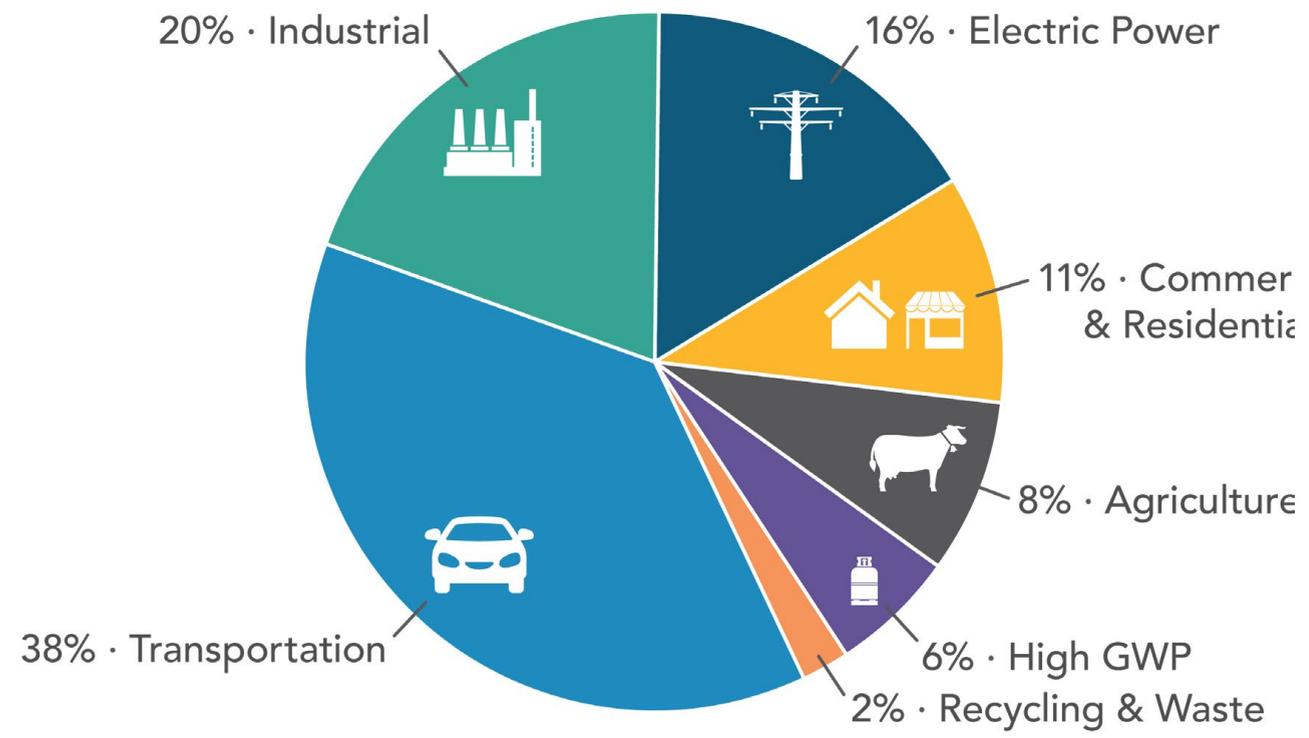
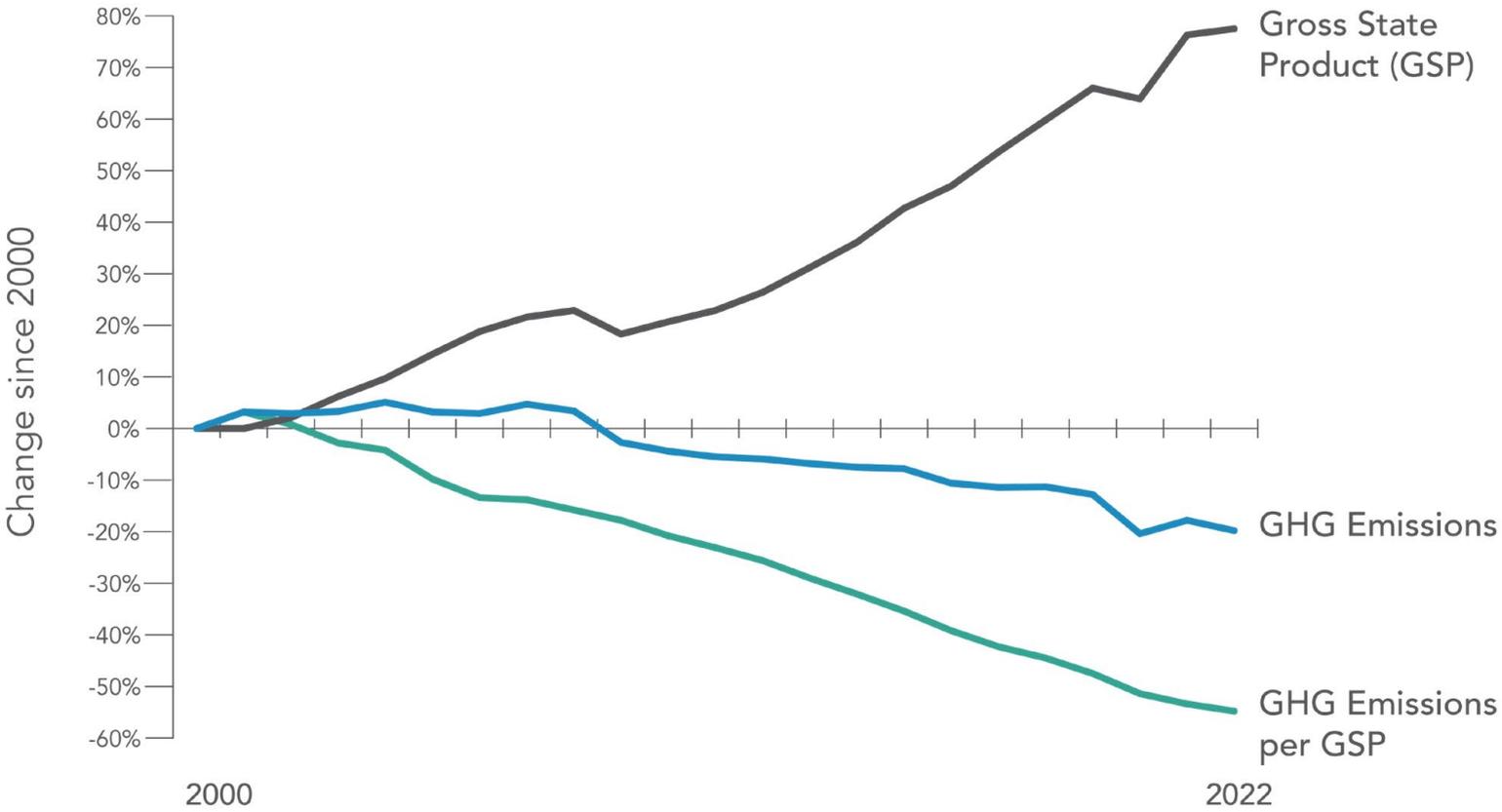
-  37x total on-road ZEVs
-  6x electric appliances in residences
-  1700x hydrogen supply
-  4x installed wind/solar generation capacity
-  > 2.5 Million acres of NWL climate action per year

Significant GHG Reductions

-  94% decrease in liquid petroleum fuel demand
-  91% decrease in fossil gas used in buildings
-  66% decrease in methane emissions from agriculture
-  10% reduction in wildfire emissions

In 2045 relative to 2022

California has lowered emissions while growing the economy, heavy lifting ahead



371.1 MMT CO₂e
2022 TOTAL CA EMISSIONS

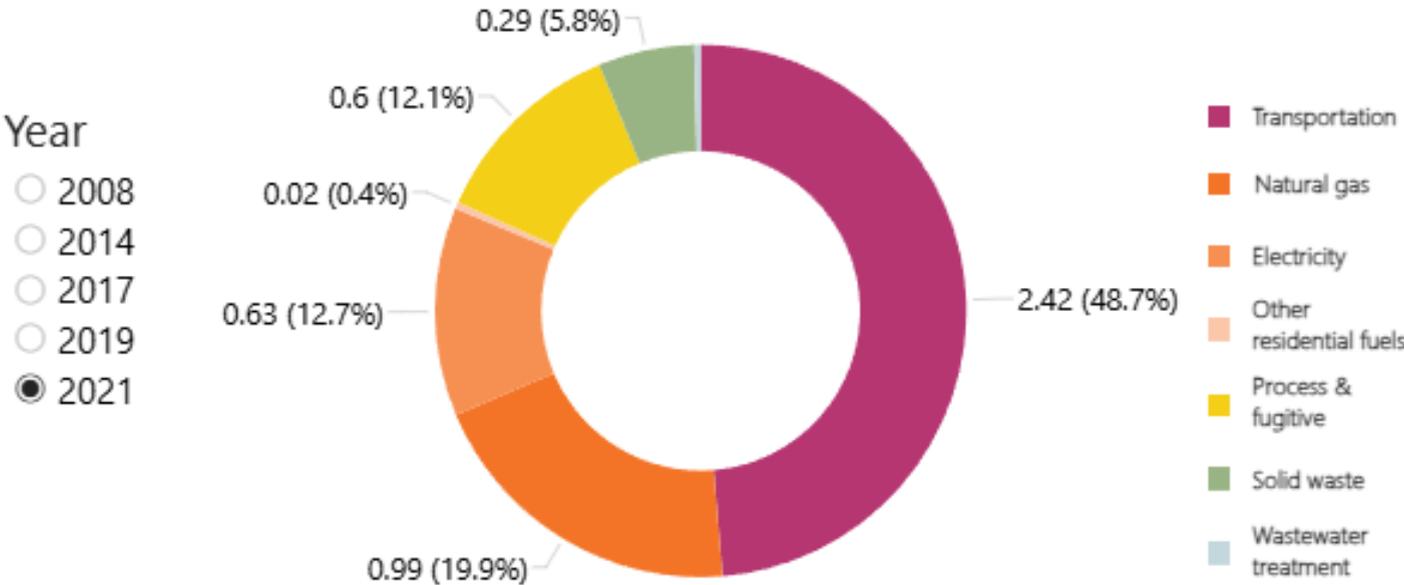
Implementing Scoping Plan Goals Locally

- Climate Action Plans (CAPs) in aggregate are the key to meeting GHG reduction targets
- We can't meet state targets unless local CAPs are implemented effectively
 - Data Tracking
 - Transparency
 - GHG Reductions Performance Tracking
 - Course Correction
- Local entities (Cities/Counties) are on the “front lines” in dealing with both GHG reductions and climate impacts
 - Wildfires
 - Extreme Heat Events
 - Drought
 - Coastal flooding
- Ideally, we are optimizing air quality and climate emission reductions (Co-Benefits)

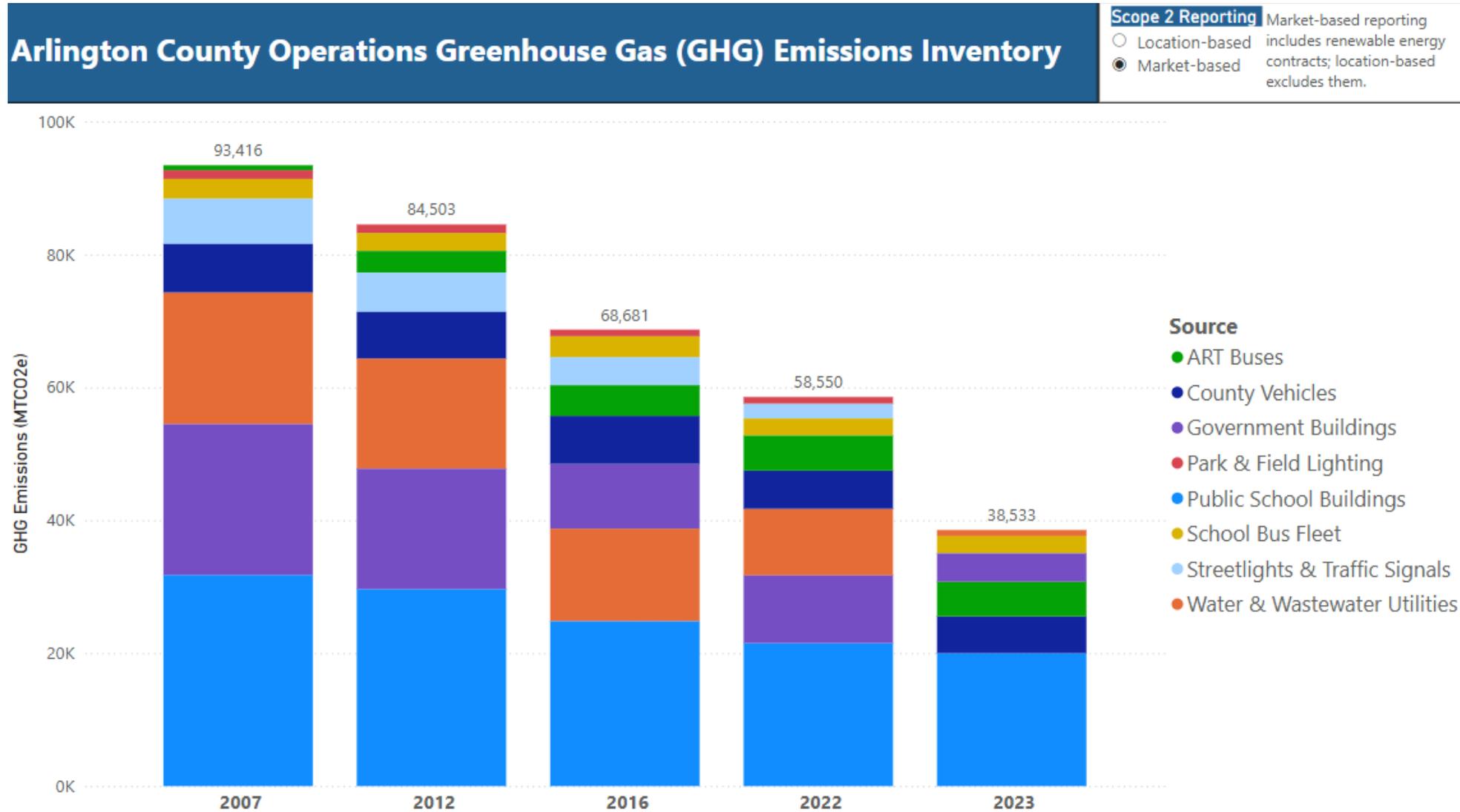
City of San Jose Climate Smart Dashboard

GHG EMISSIONS: COMMUNITYWIDE EMISSIONS

Communitywide greenhouse gas emissions by sector (all sectors)

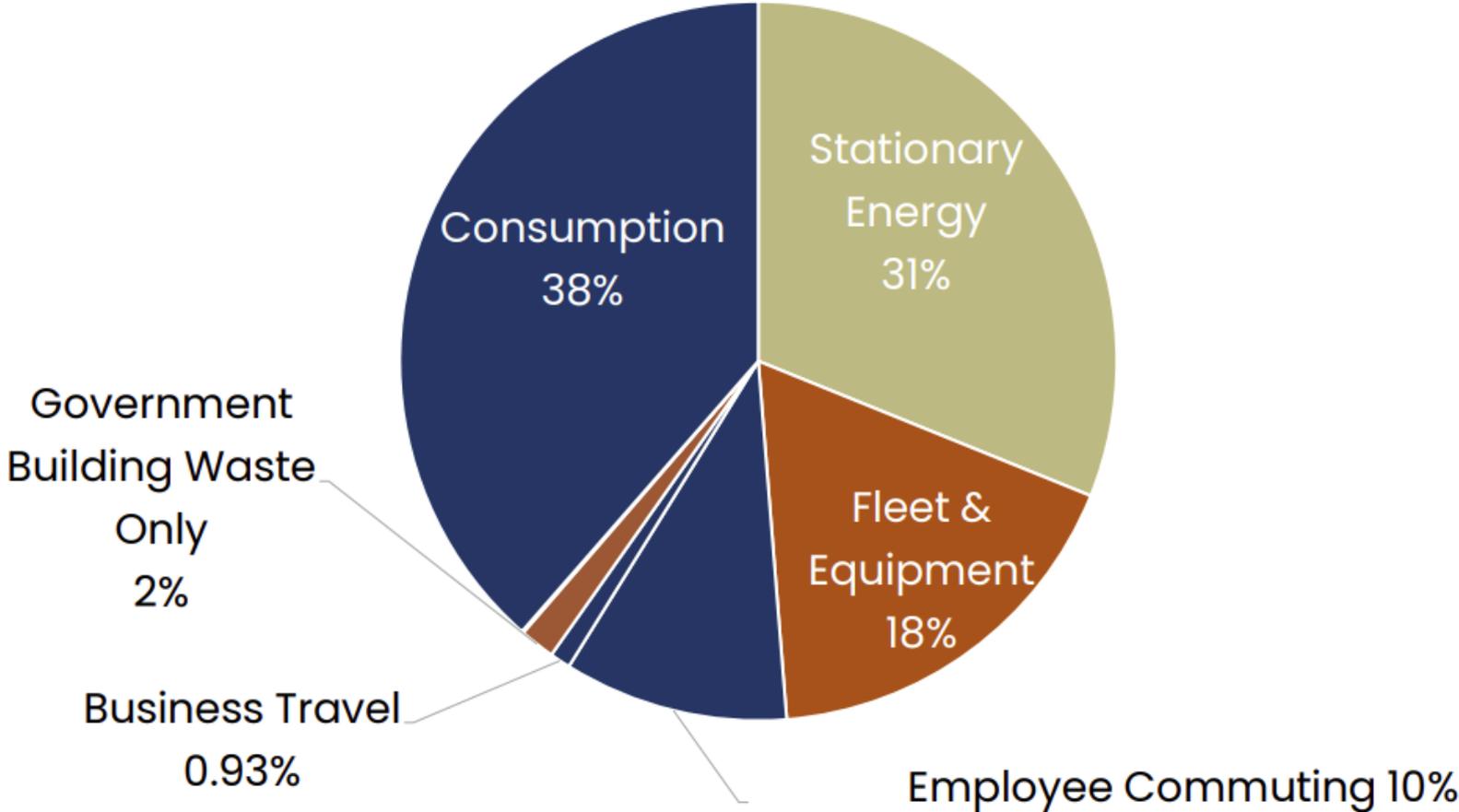


Example of County GHG Reductions



GHG Distribution

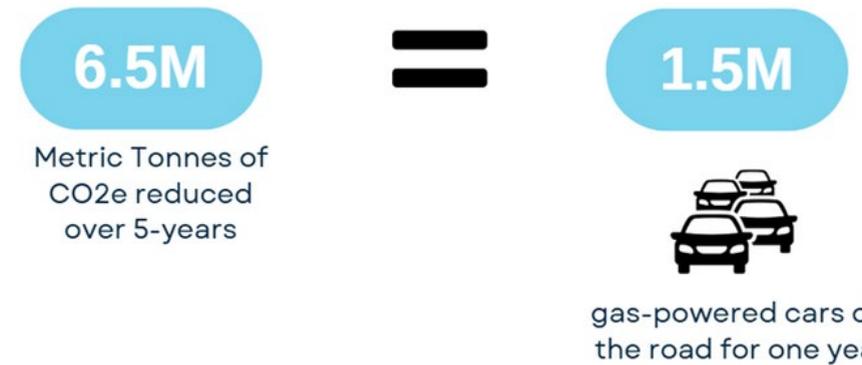
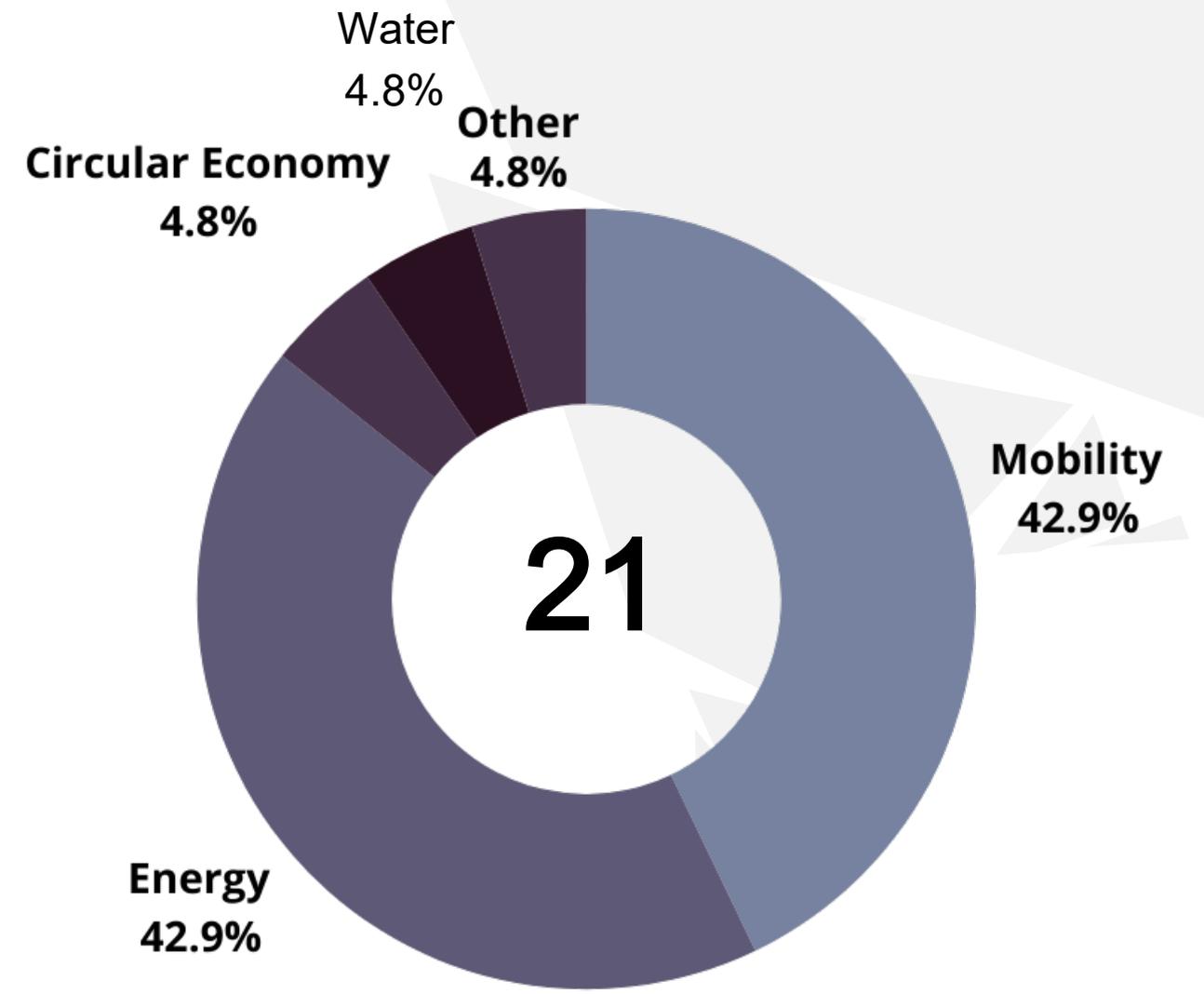
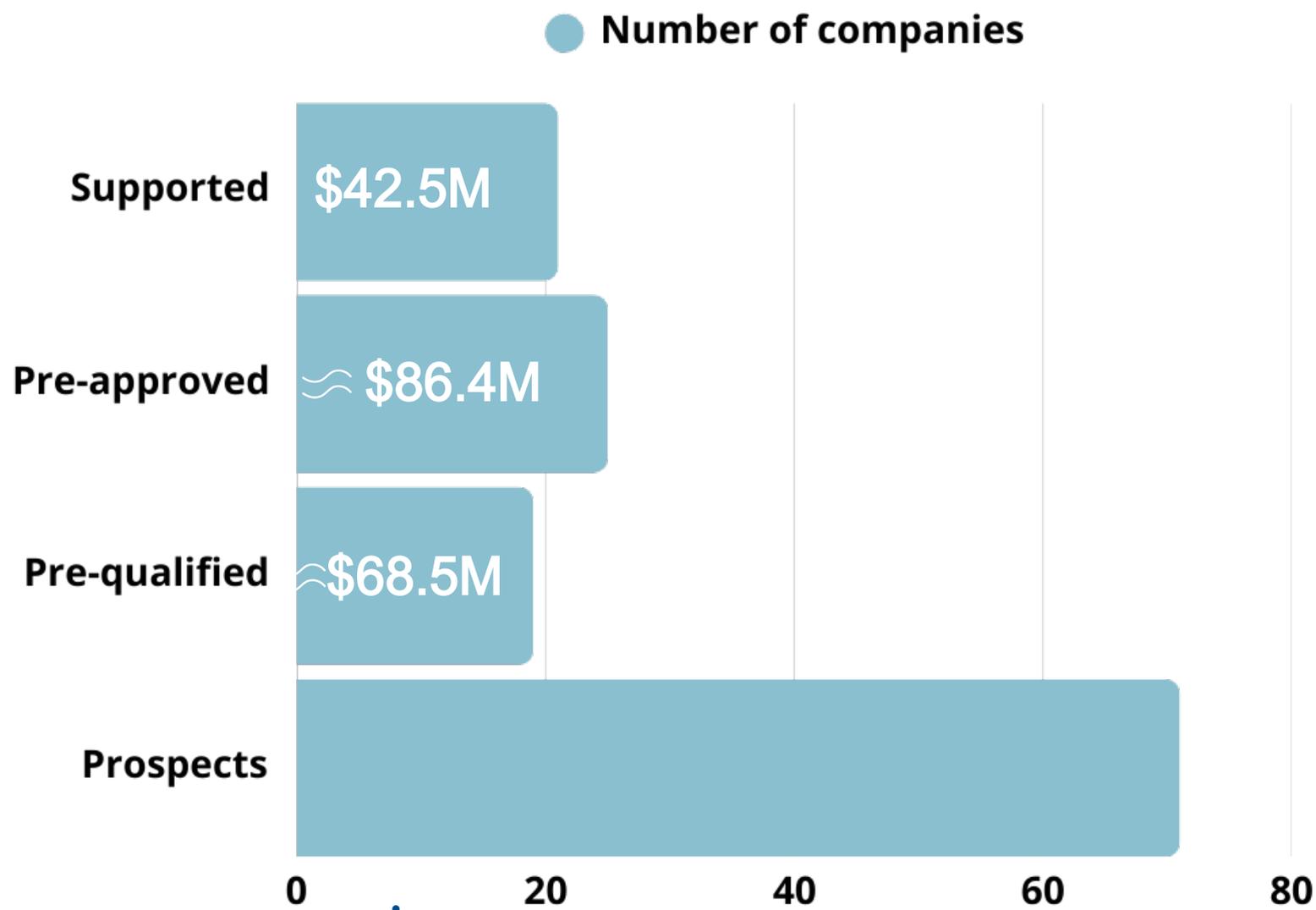
Larimer County Operations Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector without Landfill (mt CO₂e)



Program Information



Program Impact



Air District zero nitrogen oxides (NOx) standards adopted in March 2023, will support improvements to regional air quality and public health

Regulation 9, Rule 4:

NOx from Fan Type Residential Central Furnaces

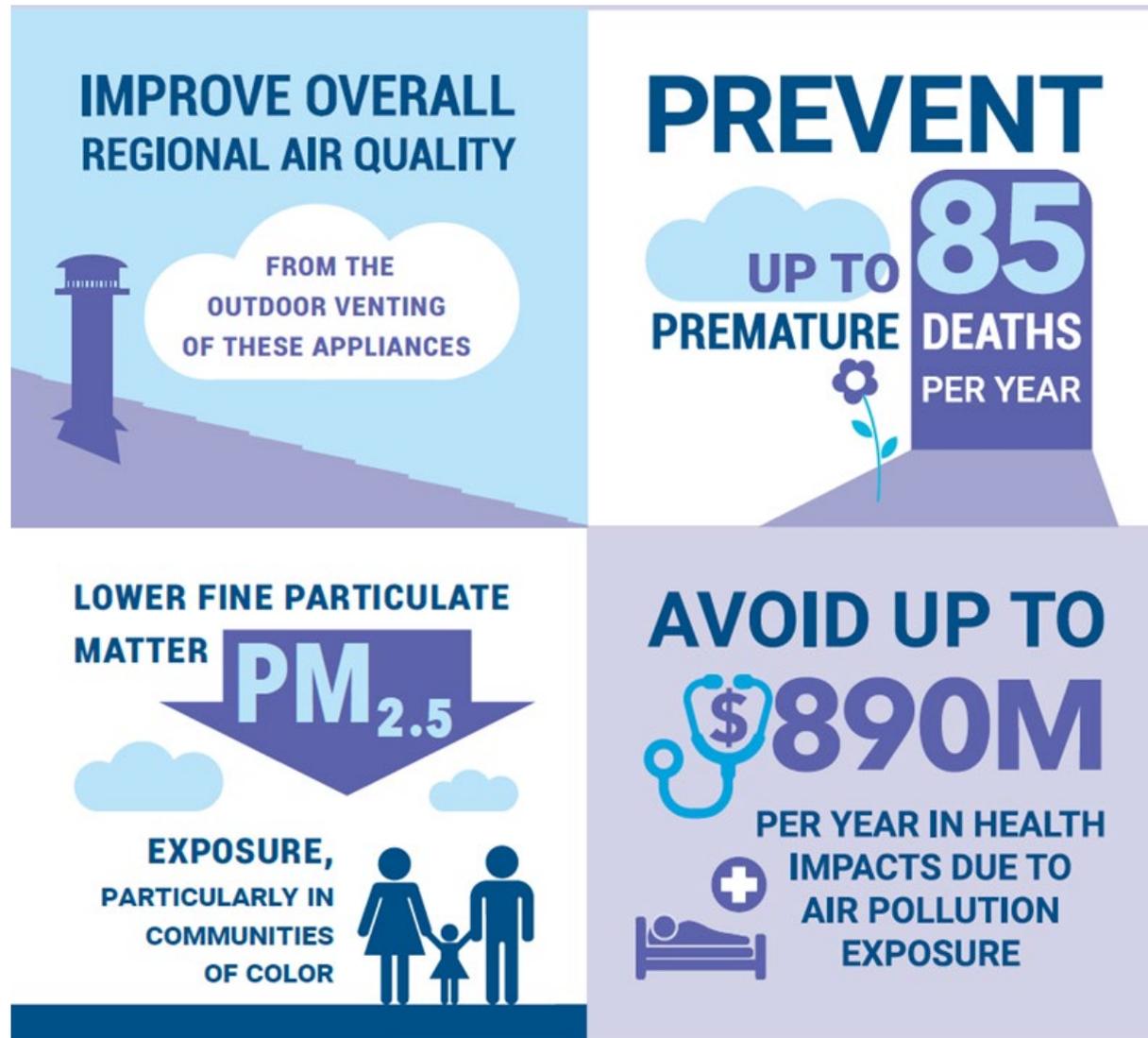


Regulation 9, Rule 6:

NOx Emissions from Natural Gas-Fired Boilers and Water Heaters

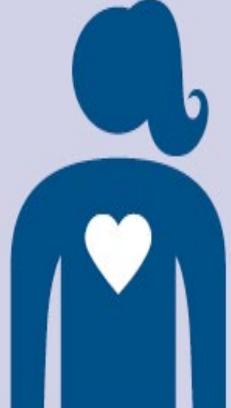
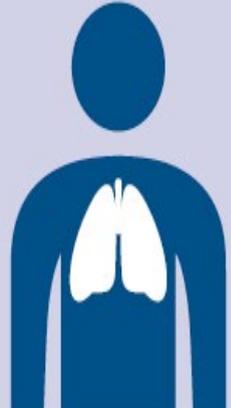


Co-Benefits of Electrification



PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS

The amended rules will affect Bay Area households that use natural gas appliances – roughly 2/3 of all households currently –



Questions/Feedback

For more information:

Christopher Easter

Senior Air Quality Specialist – Rules & Strategic Policy

ceaster@baaqmd.gov



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2412

Agenda Date: 7/28/2025

Agenda #: 5.

Advisory Board: SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Subject: Progress Report on Dashboard for Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Department: Conservation and Development

Presenter: Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator

Contact: Jody London 925-655-2815

Referral History and Update:

The County's Sustainability Team prepares an annual report on progress in meeting the goals in the County's Climate Action Plan. Members of the Sustainability Commission have suggested over the years that the County should also maintain an online dashboard that provides updates on climate action progress in a graphic format.

In November 2024, the Board of Supervisors adopted the [Climate Action and Adaptation Plan](https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/84967/Contra-Costa-County-2024-Climate-Action-and-Adaptation-Plan-PDF?bidId=) [<https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/84967/Contra-Costa-County-2024-Climate-Action-and-Adaptation-Plan-PDF?bidId=>](https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/84967/Contra-Costa-County-2024-Climate-Action-and-Adaptation-Plan-PDF?bidId=) ("CAAP"). This provides a good opportunity to explore again how best to structure a CAAP dashboard.

Staff received a suggestion from a member of the Sustainability Commission that the dashboards for [Issaquah, Washington](https://www.issaquahwa.gov/3348/Climate-Action-Plan-Dashboard) [<https://www.issaquahwa.gov/3348/Climate-Action-Plan-Dashboard>](https://www.issaquahwa.gov/3348/Climate-Action-Plan-Dashboard), [Fremont, California](https://www.fremont.gov/government/citywide-initiatives/data-dashboards/climate-action-dashboard) [<https://www.fremont.gov/government/citywide-initiatives/data-dashboards/climate-action-dashboard>](https://www.fremont.gov/government/citywide-initiatives/data-dashboards/climate-action-dashboard), and [San Diego, California](https://climatedashboard.sandiego.gov/indicators/2320) [<https://climatedashboard.sandiego.gov/indicators/2320>](https://climatedashboard.sandiego.gov/indicators/2320) could be good models. Both Issaquah and Fremont use the same underlying web platform as the County, CivicPlus, so looking at their dashboards gives an idea of how a dashboard for Contra Costa County might display and work with the capabilities of the County's existing website.

Contra Costa County has the ability in-house to develop a CAAP dashboard. The County's Department of Information Technology ("DoIT") has developed a [dashboard for Measure X](https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/10249/Measure-X-Community-Impact) [<https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/10249/Measure-X-Community-Impact>](https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/10249/Measure-X-Community-Impact) expenditures using the Power BI platform, the same platform that Issaquah and Fremont use. Sustainability staff are in conversation with DoIT about setting up a CAAP dashboard.

Staff have consulted with jurisdictions that maintain dashboards, including the City of San Jose, the County of Ventura, and the City of Issaquah. These meetings provided valuable information about the opportunities and challenges associated with creating and maintaining dashboards. Some key learnings include:

- There can be a significant commitment of staff time and funding necessary to develop and maintain a dashboard.
- It is important that the underlying spreadsheets that populate the dashboard be designed so they can be easily updated. This is particularly important when the inputs are coming from multiple departments.

- Some jurisdictions devote significant staff time to maintaining their dashboard, depending on the complexity of the platform and number of measures tracked.

The fact that the County already has access to Power BI and DoIT staff who are interested and available to help set up a CAAP dashboard will facilitate this work.

Of the many climate action strategies in the CAAP, 11 directly contribute to reductions in GHG emissions. The remaining strategies are supporting. The Sustainability Commission can assist staff by identifying those measures that should be included in the dashboard. See Attachment A for a list of the potential measures that could be tracked in a dashboard.

Staff are aiming to have a first version of the dashboard by the end of the year.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE Progress Report on Dashboard for Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS

Fiscal Impact (if any):

Establishing and maintaining a dashboard will create costs, primarily for staff time to develop, update, and maintain the dashboard. These costs will accrue primarily to the Department of Information Technology and the Department of Conservation and Development, although all departments that have a role in implementing the CAAP will need to assign staff to work on monitoring and reporting on progress.

Potential CAAP Dashboard Metrics

Measure	Performance Metric	Type of Metric	Time Frame
BE	Clean and Efficient Built Environment		
BE-1	Completed report exploring requirements for low-carbon concrete in new construction.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	Near term (2026)
	Number of new residential units with an energy performance that exceeds state minimums	Count	Near term (2026)
	Number of new non-residential buildings with an energy performance that exceeds state minimums	Count	Near term (2026)
BE-2	Number of non-residential buildings (including County facilities) participating in energy efficiency and weatherization programs, including retrofits and site rehabilitation, with attention to participation in Impacted Communities.	Count	Near term (2026)
	Number of residential units participating in energy efficiency and weatherization programs, including retrofits and site rehabilitation, with attention to participation in Impacted Communities.	Count	Near term (2026)
	Roadmap to convert existing buildings to all-electric	Binary (complete/incomplete)	Near term (2026)
	Number of housing units renovated to Title 24 standards	Count	Near term (2026)
BE-3	Number (or percent) of County and community accounts enrolled in MCE Deep Green	Count	mid-term (by 2028)
	Total megawatts of installed renewable energy capacity, by type, in the unincorporated county.	Count (megawatts)	mid-term (by 2028)
	Megawatt-hours of installed battery storage capacity at public and private buildings.	Count (megawatt-hours)	mid-term (by 2028)
	Progress in meeting recommendations from the 2018 Renewable Resource Potential Study.	Qualitative (notes field)	mid-term (by 2028)
NW	No Waste Contra Costa		
NW-1	Percentage of County-controlled franchise areas with source separated organics collection for residential customers.	Percentage	mid-term (by 2028)
	Recycling, composting at County facilities.	Annual weekly average (tons)	mid-term (by 2028)

Measure	Performance Metric	Type of Metric	Time Frame
NW-2	Recycled content of County purchases consistent with applicable requirements of SB 1383.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	mid-term (by 2028)
NW-3	Pounds of waste per person per day	Per-capita total (tons/person)	mid-term (by 2028)
NW-4	Methane capture rate	Percentage	mid-term (by 2028)
	Tons of flared landfill gas	Count (tons)	mid-term (by 2028)
DR	Reduce Water Use and Increase Drought Resilience		
DR-1	Water use, specifically reduction in overall water use in the unincorporated county as reported by water districts	Count (acre feet or MG)	Near-term (by 2026)
	Number of participants in Contra Costa Water District Lawn to Garden program.	Count	Near-term (by 2026)
	Number of participants in East Bay Municipal Utility District Lawn Conversion program.	Count	Near-term (by 2026)
	Number of residential graywater system installations	Count	Near-term (by 2026)
	Number of commercial graywater systems installations	Count	Near-term (by 2026)
DR-2	Amount of recycled water used.	Count (acre feet or MG)	mid-term (by 2028)
	Groundwater sustainability indicators: chronic lowering of groundwater levels; reduction in storage; seawater intrusion; degraded quality; land subsidence; surface water depletion.	Qualitative (notes field) or quantitative (count) depending on availability	mid-term (by 2028)
TR	Clean Transportation Network		
TR-1	Number of employers operating transportation demand programs.	Count	long-term (by 2030)
	Number of employees participating in the County remote work policy.	Count	long-term (by 2030)
	Number of County employees using the pre-tax commute benefit.	Count	long-term (by 2030)
	Miles of bike lanes	Count	long-term (by 2030)
	Bicycle mode share	Percentage/rate	long-term (by 2030)
	Bus ridership (commute share)	Percentage	long-term (by 2030)
TR-2	Number of zero-emission vehicles registered in unincorporated county.	Count	ongoing
	Percentage of County fleet that is zero-emission.	Percentage	ongoing
	Implementation of an EV sharing program	Binary (complete/incomplete)	ongoing
	Number of electric vehicle charging ports installed at County facilities for County fleet and public use.	Count	ongoing
NI	Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure		
NI-1	Establish a shoreline flooding working group.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	

Measure	Performance Metric	Type of Metric	Time Frame
NI-2	Amount of County funds distributed for wildfire mitigation efforts.	Count	
	Miles of power lines undergrounded.	Count	
NI-3	Adopted plan for community resilience hubs.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	
	Number of community resilience hubs.	Count	
NI-4	Completed feasibility study for carbon sequestration in Contra Costa County.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	Long term (by 2030)
	Number of completed pilot carbon farming project(s).	Count	Long term (by 2030)
NI-5	Adoption of an Urban Forest Management Plan, or Tree Plan.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	
	Square feet of pervious pavers installed.	Count	
NI-6	Development and use of climate change vulnerability and resilience screening criteria for County capital investment projects.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	
	Number of County-led or supported outreach and engagement activities in support of emergency preparedness and hazard mitigation.	Count	
CE	Climate Equity		
CE-1	Funds spent by County departments on energy efficiency and other services that support the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan goals in Impacted Communities compared to non-Impacted Communities.	Count	
CE-2	Modified County investment policy to use ESG and to continue to prohibit investment in all securities issued by fossil fuel companies.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	mid-term (by 2028)
	Advocacy for Contra Costa Employees Retirement Association to use ESG in its investment priorities and to offer environmentally and socially responsible investment choices for members.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	mid-term (by 2028)
CE-3	Number of residents in unincorporated county, including those in Impacted Communities, within a half mile of a park or other green space.	Percentage	mid-term (by 2028)
	Total acres of parks and green space by type.	Count	near-term (by 2026)
CE-4	Number of regular Certified Farmers' Markets in all communities.	Count	long-term (by 2030)
	Number of regular Certified Farmers' Markets in Impacted Communities.	Count	
	Number of residents participating in In Lieu of Services (ILOS) food benefits.	Count	long-term (by 2030)

Measure	Performance Metric	Type of Metric	Time Frame
CE-5	Quantity and type of fossil fuels produced, refined, stored in, and distributed in the unincorporated county, to the extent data are available.	Count (x2: petroleum and natural gas)	near-term (by 2026)
	Local air quality metrics.	Count	near-term (by 2026)
L	Leadership		
L-1	Annual report on conditions placed on discretionary projects to ensure support for Climate Action and Adaptation Plan goals.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	mid-term (by 2028)
	Amount of pesticides applied to County properties.	Count (pounds or tons)	mid-term (by 2028)
L-2	Actions taken to implement Climate Emergency Resolution.	Qualitative (notes field)	mid-term (by 2028)
IS	Implementation		
IS-1	Dedicated funding in annual budget for implementation of the 2024 CAAP.	Count	near-term (by 2026)
IS-2	Partnerships developed and maintained.	Count	near-term (by 2026)
IS-3	Funding provided for the Sustainability Fund.	Count	near-term (by 2026)
IS-4	Updated GHG inventories every five years.	Binary (complete/incomplete)	mid-term (by 2028)
IS-5	Progress on implementing GHG emissions reduction strategies, climate adaptation strategies, and general sustainability strategies.	Percentage	near-term (by 2026)
Bold	Indicates strategy with quantified greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions.		



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2413

Agenda Date: 7/28/2025

Agenda #: 6.

Advisory Board: SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Subject: Presentation on the health associations of indoor and outdoor air pollution from member of the
Physicians for Social Responsibility SF Bay Chapter

Department: Conservation and Development

Presenter: Shoshana Wechsler, Chair

Contact: Demian Hardman-Saldana (925) 655-2816

Referral History and Update:

Health and climate change has been a topic of strong interest to the Commission. Chair Wechsler requested that Dr. Bret Adrews present to the Commission on the impacts of climate change and health.

Dr. Andrews is a recently retired neurologist who practiced at Kaiser Oakland and Richmond for 22 years. He's founded a group called NICHe, Neurologists Interested in Climate and Health (nichebrainhealth.com). As a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility SF Bay Chapter (PSR-SF,), he presents on the co-benefits of reducing greenhouse emissions and fossil fuel emissions.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE Presentation on the health associations of indoor and outdoor air pollution from member of the
Physicians for Social Responsibility SF Bay Chapter

Fiscal Impact (if any):

None.

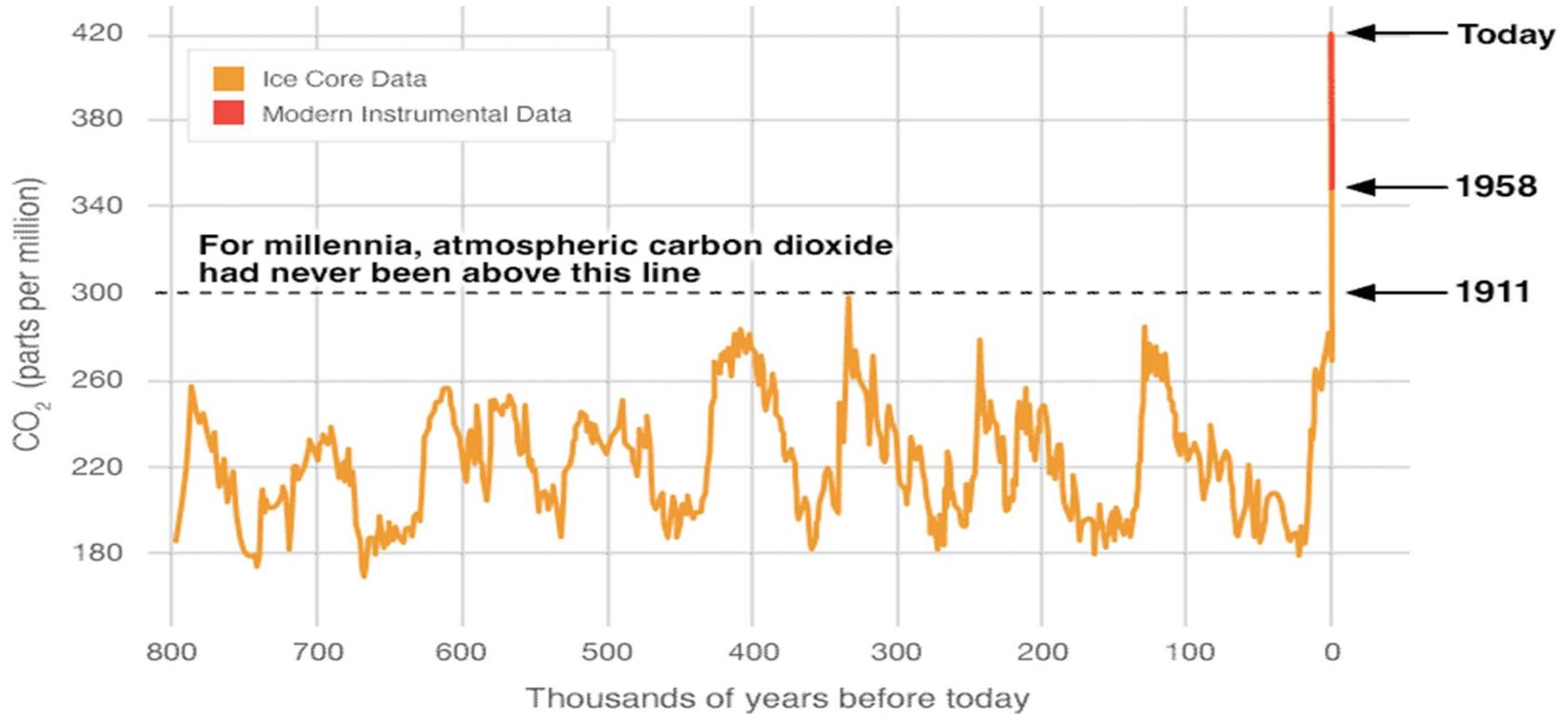
The Co-Benefits of reducing

GHGs and Fossil Fuel Emissions



Bret Andrews DO, SF Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility Board Member
Co-Director of NICHe (Neurologists Interested in Climate and Health)
July 28, 2025

Is CO₂ Increasing?

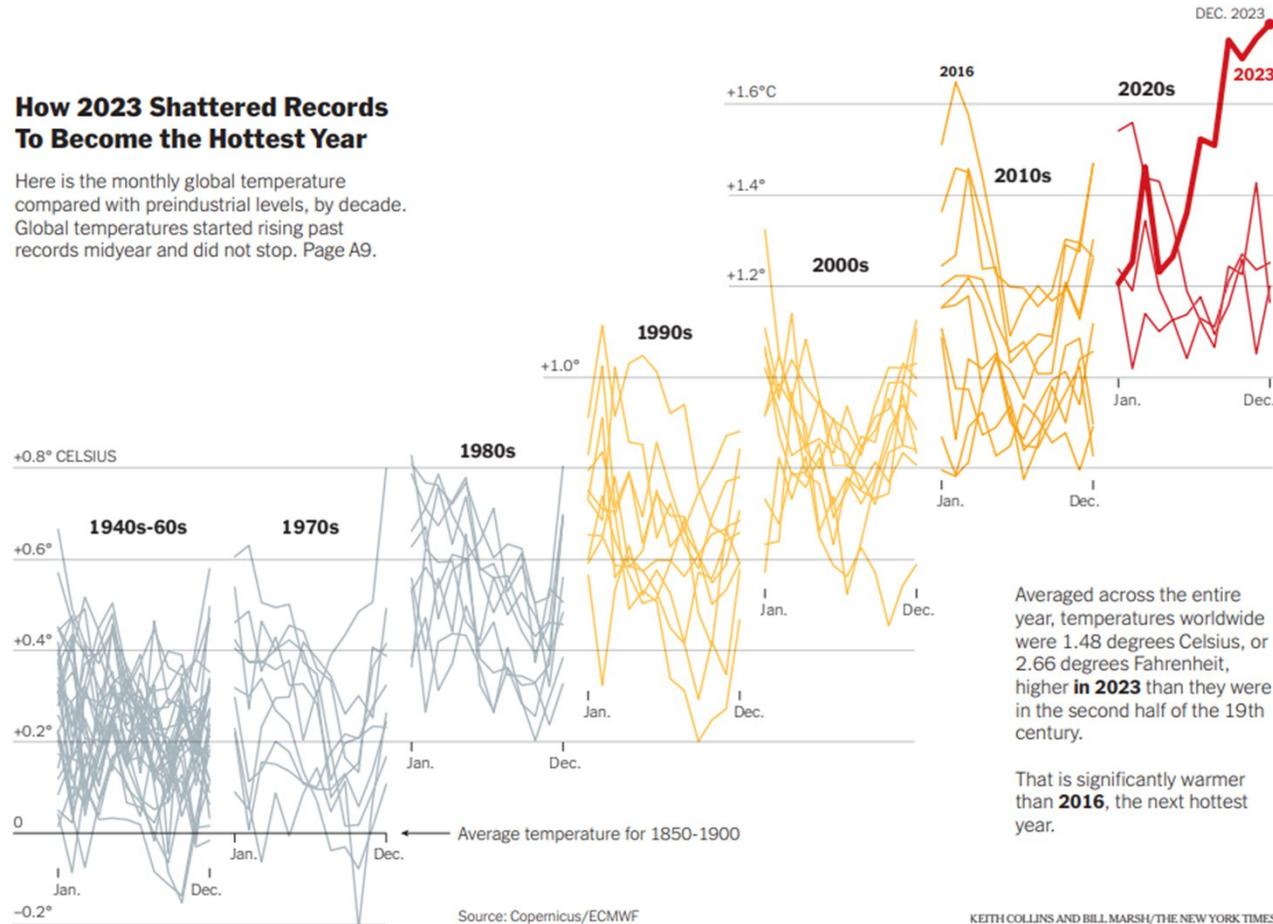


<https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/carbon-dioxide/>

Is warming accelerating?

How 2023 Shattered Records To Become the Hottest Year

Here is the monthly global temperature compared with preindustrial levels, by decade. Global temperatures started rising past records midyear and did not stop. Page A9.



NYT

Climate Change: Human and Global Stress

- **2024 had the highest average global temperatures. (Reached 1.5°C IPCC milestone > Preindustrial); pattern continues in 2025.**
- **Atmospheric carbon is at ~425 ppm this year vs 280 ppm in pre industrial times(>50% rise)**
- **Extreme weather events - Wildfires, drought w decreased rain and snow, heatwaves, heavy rains and floods, and hurricanes.**
- **Not all from climate change, but the association is increasing, and frequency and severity are increasing**
- **US cost climate change was averaging > \$125 billion/yr.**
 - **LA Wildfires could top \$150 B**
 - **Global estimates by mid century \$20-40 T**
- **[Last Summary of the IPCC: Climate Change Report 2023](#)**



LA Fires, AP

Climate Change, Unprecedented Heat

- **2024, record extreme heat events across the US**
- **Summer of 2022, >60,000 excess deaths due to European heat waves**
- **Vulnerable populations suffer more including those in urban heat islands (up to 10F warmer) and outdoor workers**
- **Probably a substantial underestimate, but recent report** 2023 extreme heat led to at least 2,325 heat-related deaths in the US. There has been a significant upswing since 2016.

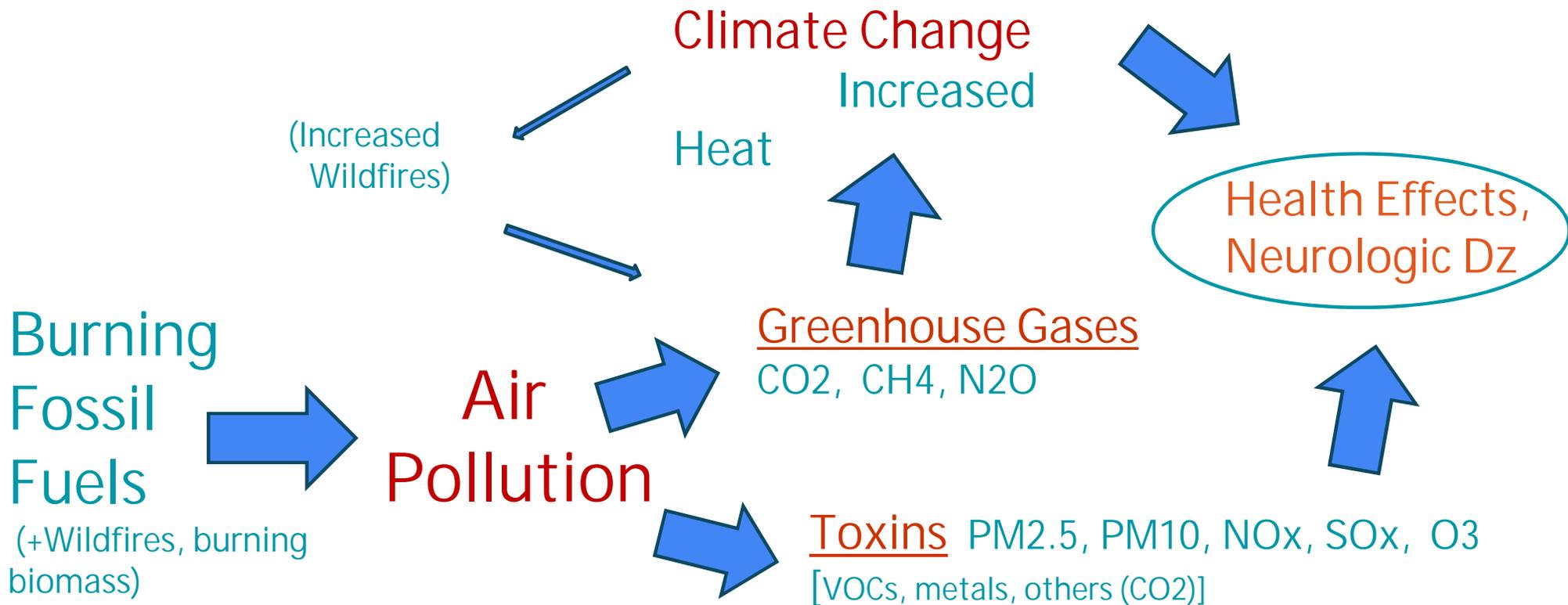
[2023 Balester. Heat related Mortality in Europe. Nature Medicine](#)³⁴

[2023 Vecellio. Greatly enhanced risk to humans...moist heat stress tolerance. PNAS](#)⁷



AP

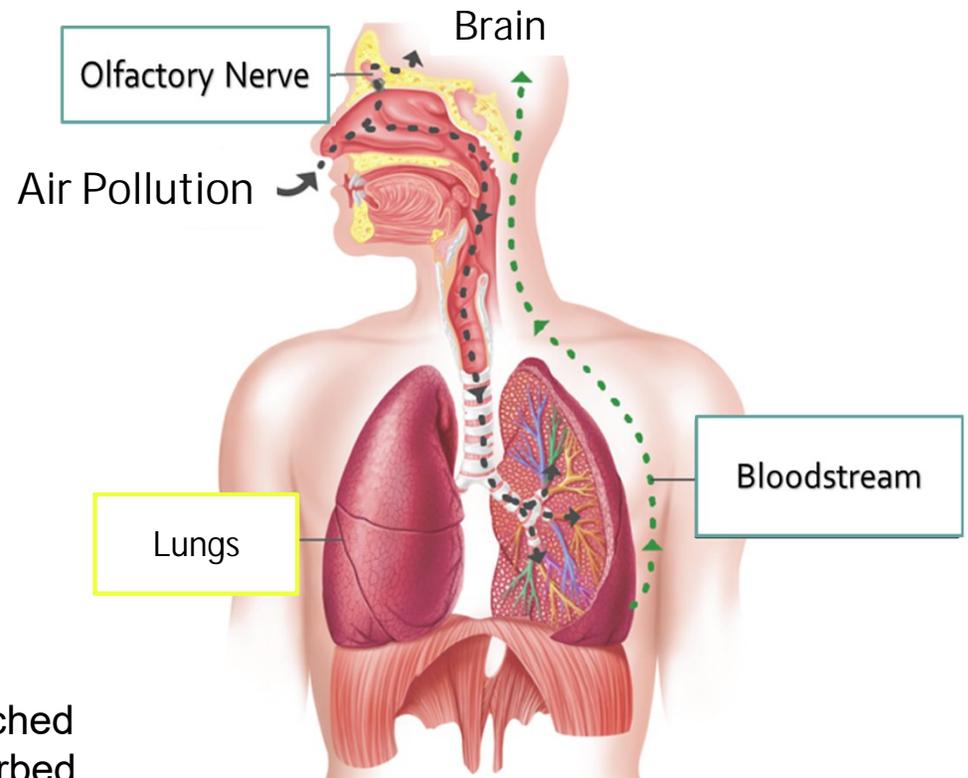
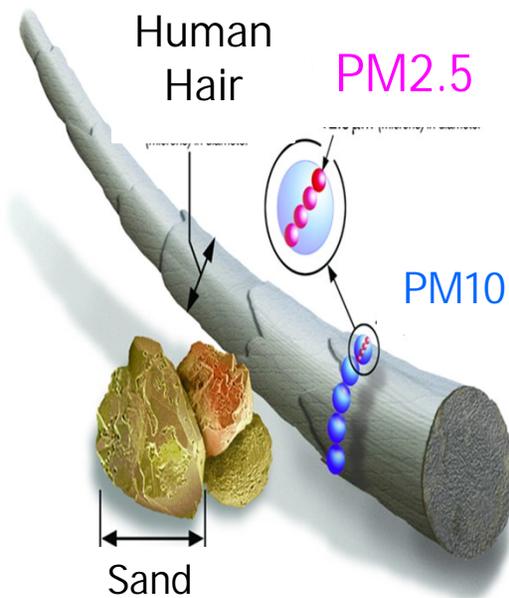
Climate Change and Air Pollution:



Air Pollution: contamination of the indoor or outdoor air by any agent that modifies the natural characteristics of the atmosphere (any chemical, physical or biological agent): WHO

*PAH= Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons, VOC= Volatile Organic Compounds

Air Pollution and Neurology



- PM2.5 (small **soot** < 2.5 μm) and NO2 most researched
- PM2.5 particles penetrate deep lungs, may be absorbed.
- Injury mechanism to brain and other organs likely involves inflammation and oxidative stress vs transit with direct organ toxicity

CA Air Resources Board³

Air Pollution and the Air Quality Index (AQI)

24hr Air Quality Index is tied to the PM2.5 concentration:

50 AQI = 9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

100 AQI = 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

150 AQI = 55 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

- EPA guidelines are more lax than WHO for average annual upper limit of exposure (9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ vs 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
- No safe lower limits established

Air Quality Index (AQI)	
0-50	Good
51-100	Moderate
101-150	Unhealthy for sensitive groups
151-200	Unhealthy
201-300	Very Unhealthy
301-500	Hazardous

1,280 x 975

Air Pollution (*like second-hand smoke*)

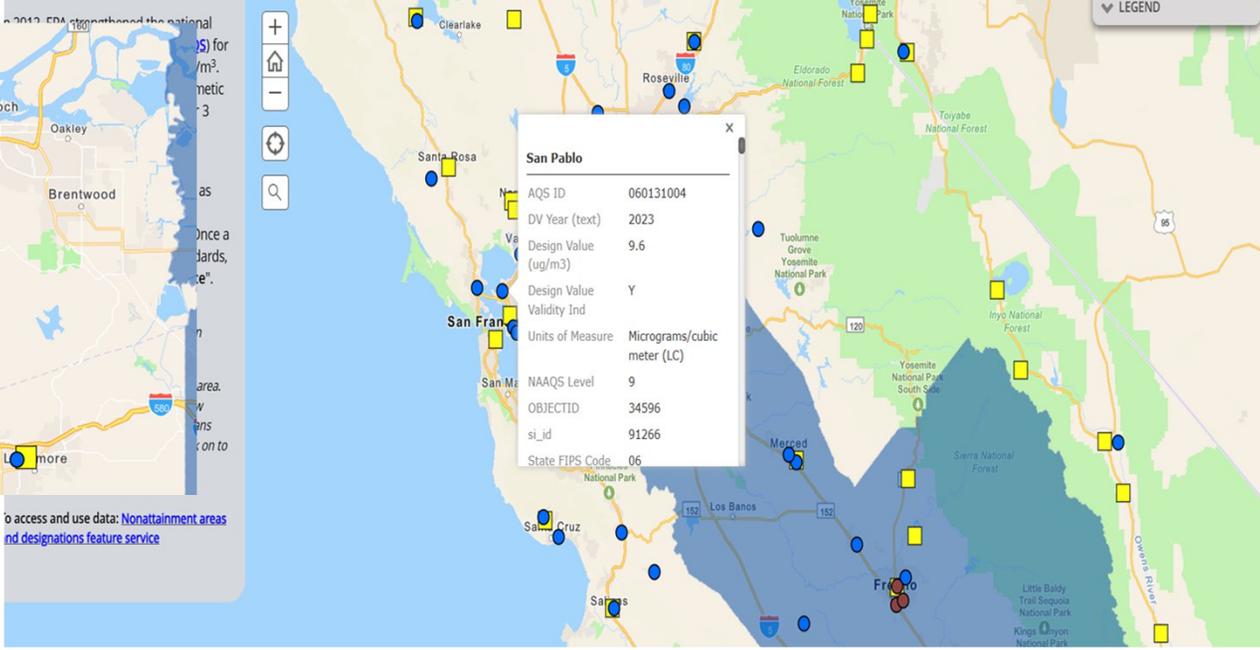
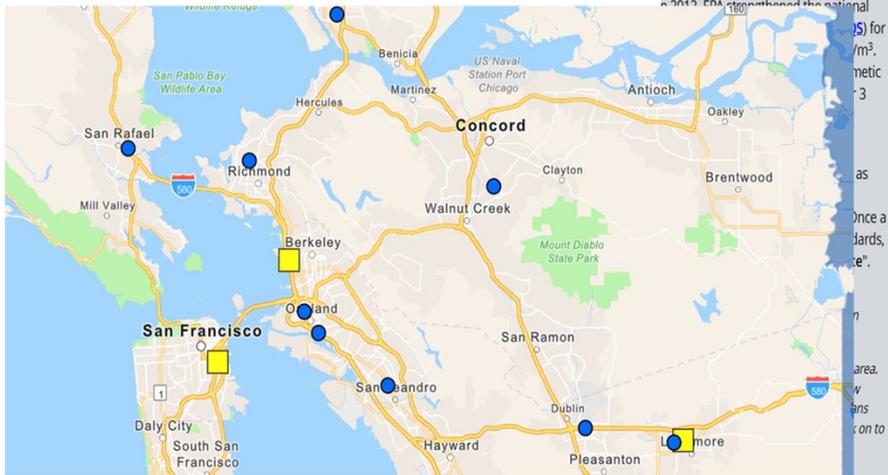
- While the Bay Area has the 6th worst annual PM2.5 averages in the country and often fails EPA air quality standards for pollutants. Contra Costa Co has been relatively spared.
- However, CCCo has a failing grades for annual PM2.5 (American Lung Association 2025 Report)
- People of color live 3.7x more often in a county with 3 or more failing grades on air pollution
- Wildfire/heating smoke and ag/industrial dust add to pollution burden
- No established safe levels for air pollutants.



Nonattainment Areas for the Criteria Pollutants

EPA works collaboratively with state, local and tribal agencies to identify areas of the U.S. that do not meet the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS).

- PM2.5 Annual (2012)
- PM2.5 Annual (1997)
- PM2.5 24-hour (2006)
- PM10 (1987)
- Ozone 8-Hour (2015)
- Ozone 8-Hour (2008)
- Ozone 8-Hour (1997)
- SO2 (2010)
- Pb (2008)



To access and use data: [Nonattainment areas and designations feature service](#)

EPA Greenbook 2025



Particle Pollution - Annual

[Learn More](#)

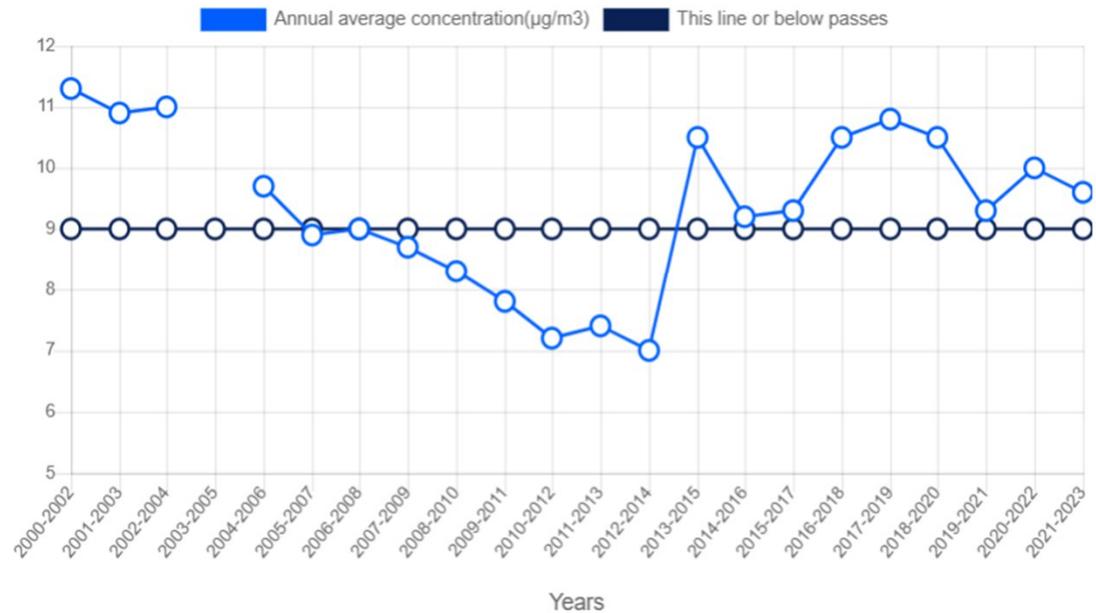
Grade

Fail

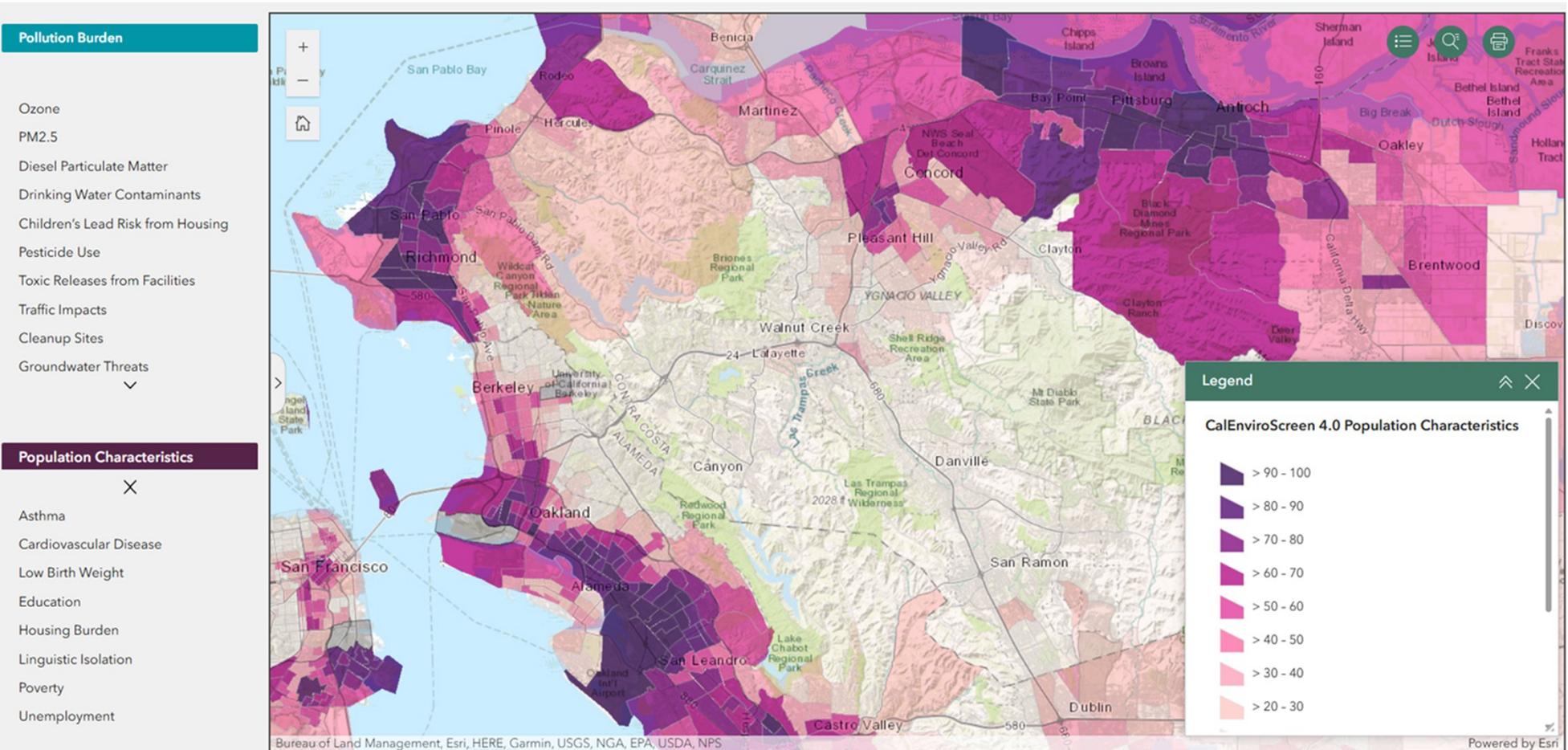
Design Value

9.6

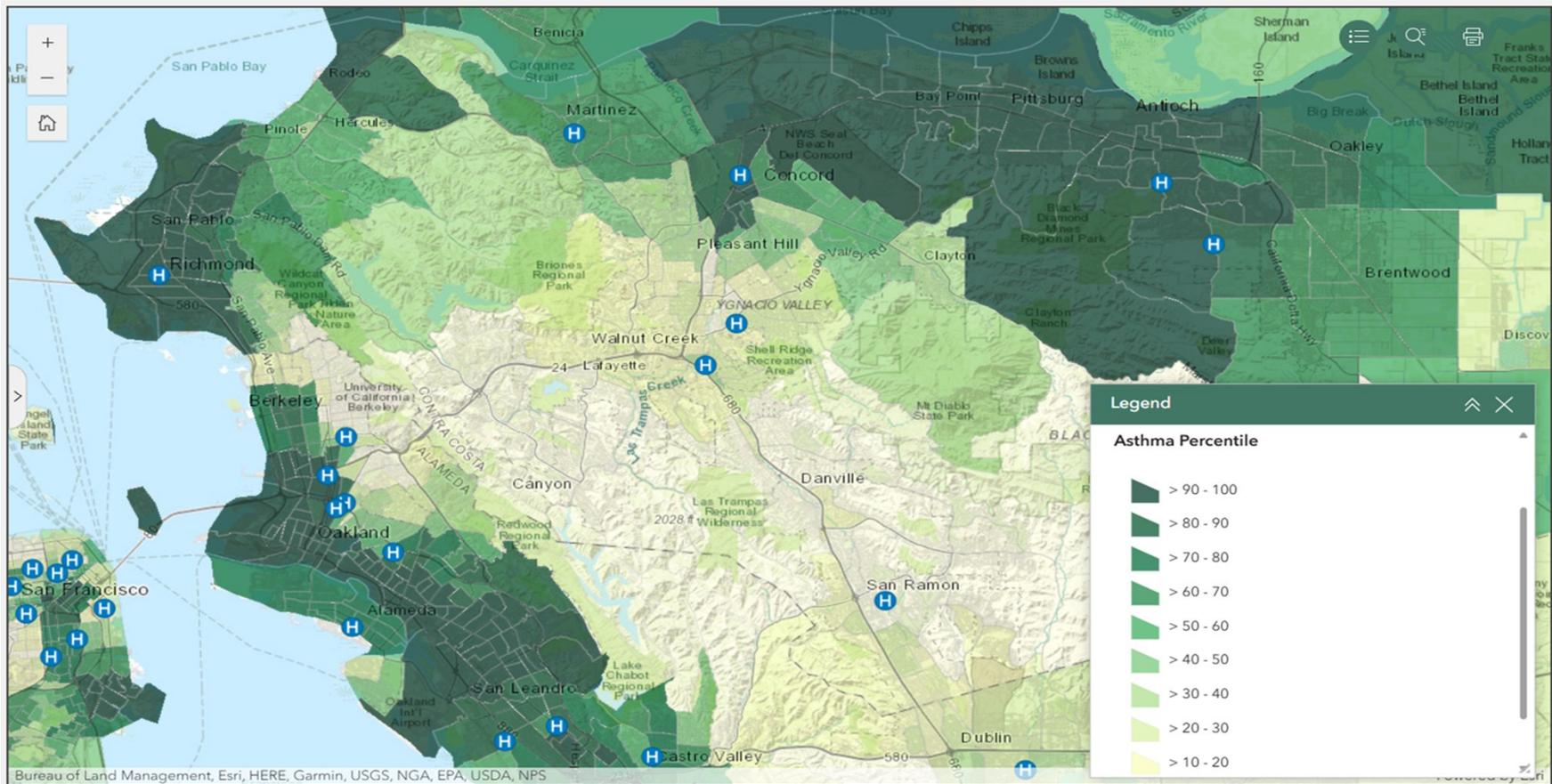
Contra Costa



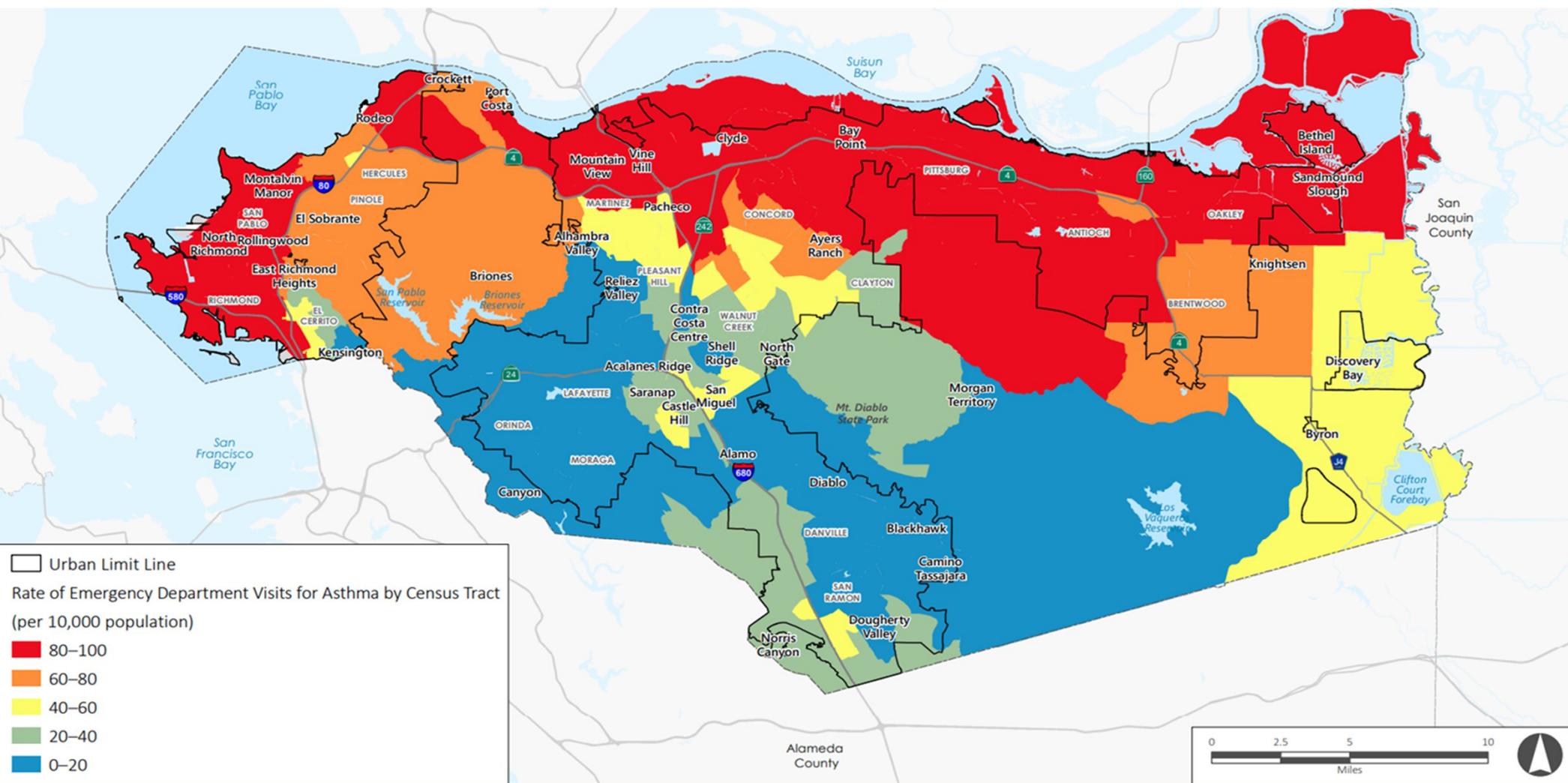
Population Characteristics Track with Population Burden



Asthma Percentile Disproportionate



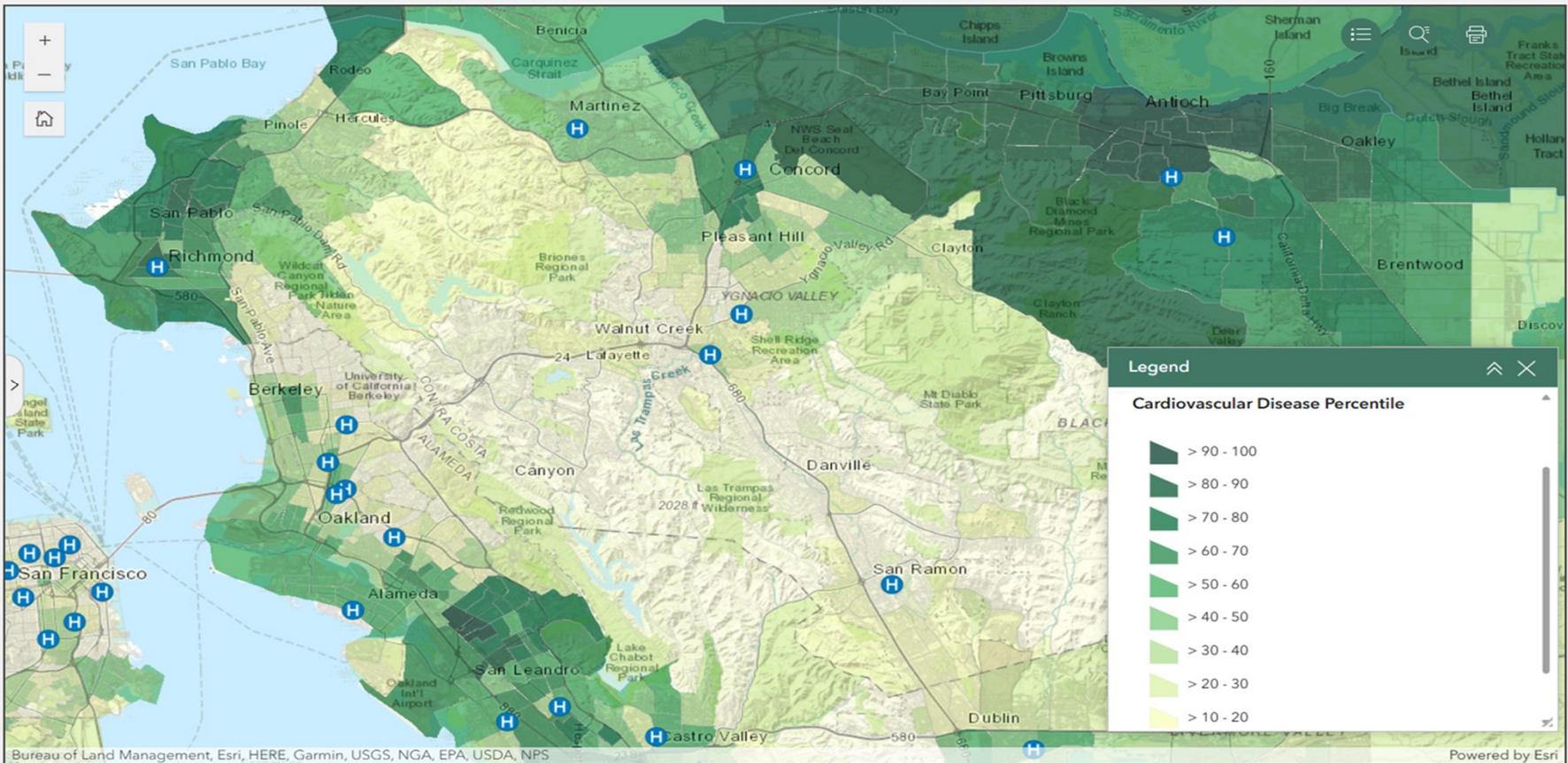
Estimate of the number of emergency department visits for asthma per 10,000 people from 2015 to 2017, Cal Enviro Screen 4.0



Source: California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, 2018; Contra Costa County, 2019; PlaceWorks, 2019.

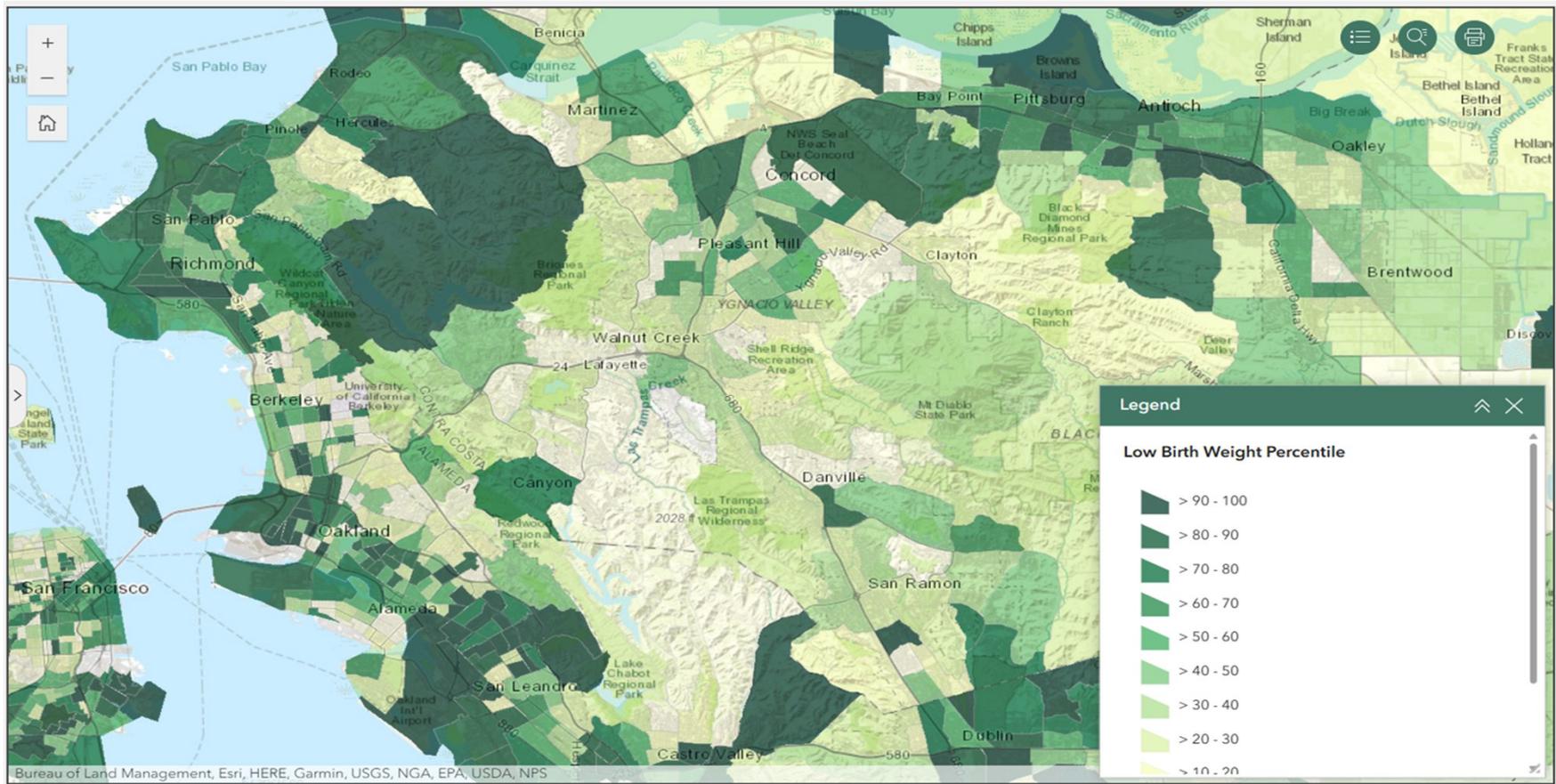
CA Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment 2018

Cardiovascular Disease Percentile Disproportionate



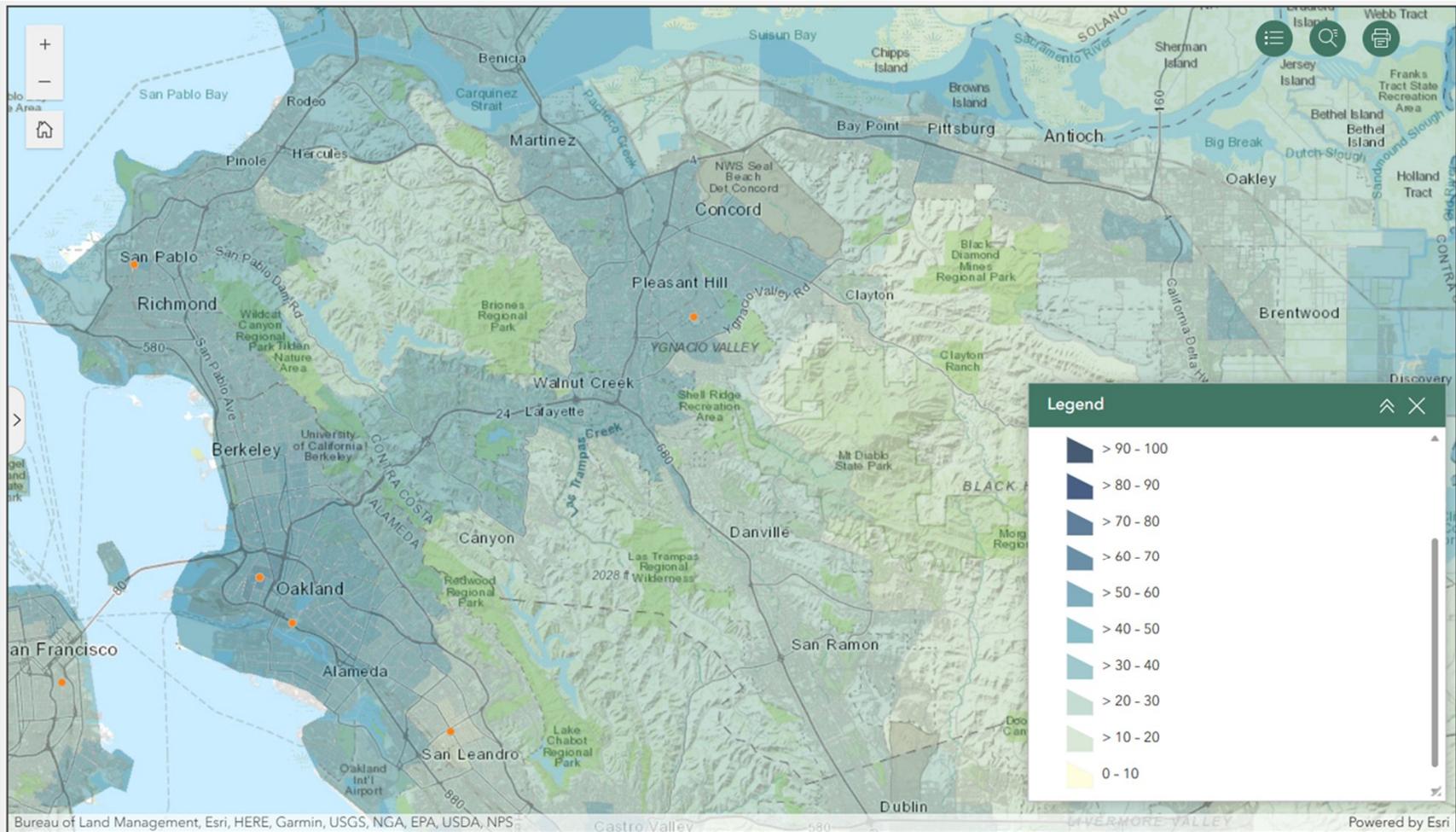
The number of [heart attack emergency department visits](#) per 10,000 people for the years 2015-2017, Cal Enviro Screen 4.0

Low Birth Weight Percentile Disproportionate

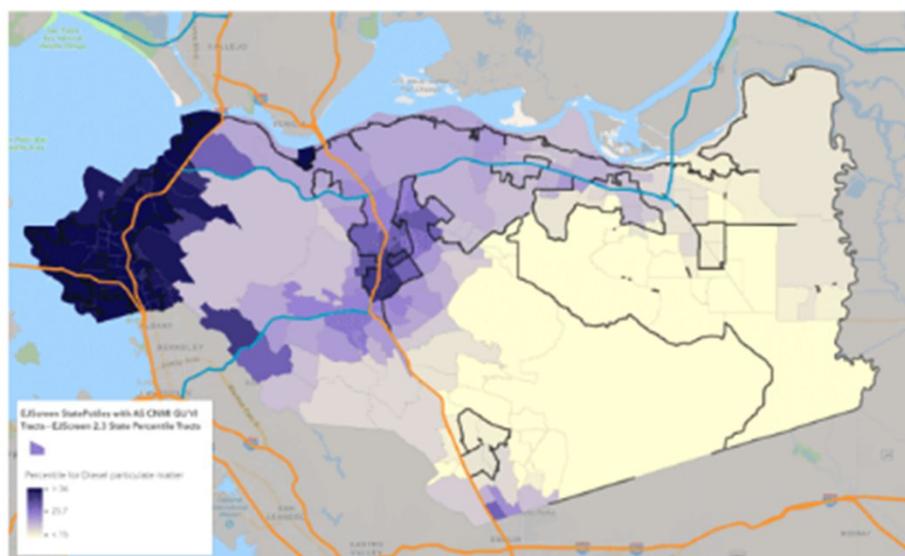


Babies weighing less than ~five and a half pounds (or 2500 grams) at birth are low birth weight. 2009-15, Cal Enviro Screen 4.0

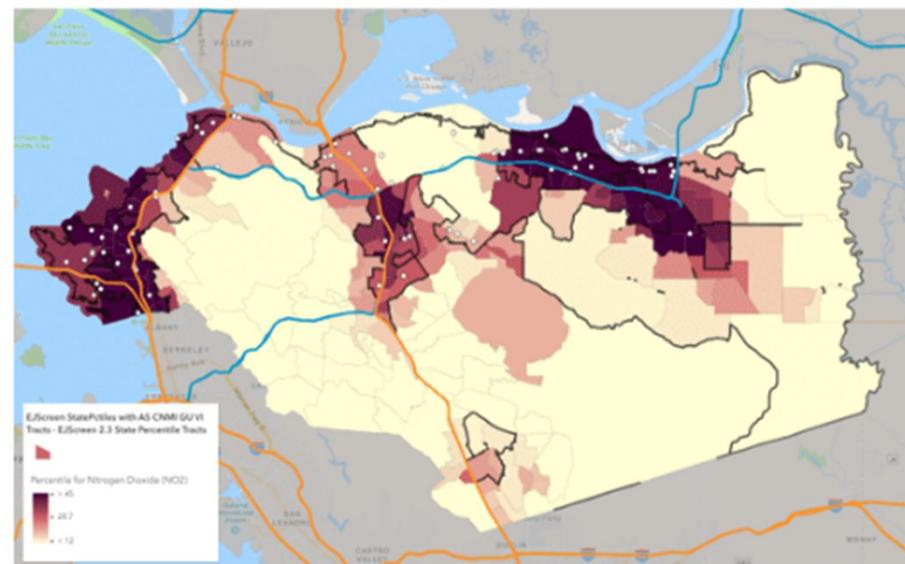
PM2.5 Disproportionate



Diesel Particulates (PM) and NO₂ also disproportionate



b. Diesel PM shown with Major Highways (colored lines)



c. NO₂ shown with Industrial Facilities (white dots) & Highways (colored lines)

EPA EJScreen 2.3 State Percentile Tracts, 2024

Air Pollution Neurological Effects from PM2.5

- Meta-analyses of long term PM2.5 exposure: For each 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ increase in average PM2.5 exposure: (equivalent to a rise in AQI 28 to 62)
 - Ischemic stroke up 13%
 - Ischemic heart disease mortality up 23%
 - Heart attacks up 8%
- Another meta-analysis for short term exposure:
Less than 5 day exposure from multiple air pollutants including PM2.5 and NO₂ increased mortality of ischemic stroke onset.

JAHA

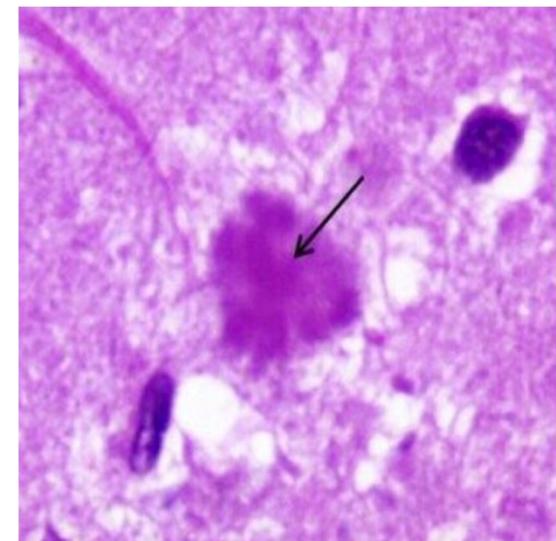
[Alexeeff SE. 2021. Long-term PM2.5 exposure and risks of ischemic heart disease and stroke events:review and meta-analysis. J Am Heart Assoc⁹](#)
(14 studies) [RR of an incident ischemic stroke in the random effects meta-analysis = 1.18 (95% CI, 1.14–1.22), with low heterogeneity among studies (I²=11.8%)]
US/Canada/Europe/Asia

[Toubasi A. 2023. Short-term Exposure to Air Pollution and Ischemic Stroke: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Neurology³⁵](#)
Asia>50% 110 studies, rest Europe and Americas) [short-term defined as exposure \leq 5 days from onset of CVA] Asia predominant

Neurology[®]

Air Pollution Neurological Effects: Dementia

- Another meta-analysis:
dementia for every 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ increment in $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ (equivalent to a rise in AQI from 28 to 33.)
Showed a 3% increase in
- Another study found in the United Kingdom:
Those living less than 1 km from a major traffic road had a 13% higher risk of dementia vs greater than 1 km.



Amyloid Plaque

Neurology®

[Abolhasani E, et al. 2023. Air Pollution and Incidence of Dementia. Neurology³⁶ 20 cohort studies](#)

[Li C, et al. 2023. Relationships of Residential Distance to Major Traffic Roads and Dementia Incidence and Brain Structural Measures. Health Data Science³⁷](#)

Neurocognitive Function and Air Pollution

-40 peer-reviewed studies link varied child brain adverse outcomes (structural and functional) to air pollution

[Parenteau, AM, et al. 2024 Clearing the air: A systematic review of studies on air pollution and childhood brain outcomes to mobilize policy change. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*](#)

-Research has linked Autism to increased PM2.5

[McGuinn LA, et al. 2020 Early Life Exposure to Air Pollution and Autism. *Epidemiology*](#)

It's not just burning, but FF production that is toxic

Adverse perinatal outcomes (LBW, Premature Births which increase risk of mortality and longterm developmental problems.)

Asthma exacerbations, asthma hospitalizations, and respiratory symptoms: *up to 1km or more from wells.*

[California Oil and Gas Public Health Rulemaking Scientific Advisory Panel to Cal GEM Report](#) (SB1137)

Higher concentrations of ambient air pollutants - PM2.5, CO, NO2, O3, and VOCs from wells *preproduction wells within 4 km (~2.5mi) and producing wells within 2km (~1.25mi)*

[Gonzalez DJX, et al. 2022 Upstream oil and gas production and ambient air pollution. *Sci Tot Env*](#)
(UCB/Stanford)

Air Pollution Associated Disease:

-cardiovascular disease: stroke and heart attack

PM2.5, NO₂

-Alzheimer's Dz and Parkinson's Dz.

PM2.5,

NO₂

-neurodevelopment

Air pollution (AP)

-lung disease: asthma and chronics

Production, AP (PM2.5, NO₂, Diesel

PM)

-cancer: [Alexeeff et al. 2023. Association of Long-term Exposure to Particulate Air Pollution With Cardiovascular Events in California, *JAMA Netw Open*](#) Benzene/

[Wei Y, et al. 2024. Exposure-response associations between chronic exposure to fine particulate matter and risks of hospital admission for major cardiovascular diseases: population based cohort study. *BMJ*](#)

[Wei Y, et al. 2023. Additive effects of 10-year exposures to PM2.5 and NO2 and primary cancer incidence in American older adults. *Environ Epidemiol*](#) (hydro)

[Cheng I, et al. 2019. Association between ambient air pollution and breast cancer risk: The multiethnic cohort study. *Int J Cancer*](#)

[Landrigan PJ, et al. 2017. Air pollution and the kidney—implications for control of non-communicable diseases. *Lancet*](#)

[Wu J, et al. 2024. Exposure to air pollution, genetic susceptibility, and psoriasis risk in the UK. *JAMA Netw Open*](#)

[Wang X, et al. 2024. Associations of prenatal exposure to PM2.5 and its components with offsprings' neurodevelopmental and behavioral problems: A](#)

[prospective cohort study from China. *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety*](#)

-birth outcomes

Production, AP

(PM2.5, ...)

Heat also causes strokes and dementia hospitalization

A recent **study** found increased [stroke](#) and [stroke mortality](#) associated with extreme heat

[Qu C, et al. Burden of Stroke Attributable to Nonoptimal Temperatures in 204 Countries and Territories](#)

[\[Neurology, 2024\]](#)

[Alahmad B, et al. Extreme Temperatures and Stroke Mortality: Evidence From a Multi-Country Analysis. \[Stroke 7/2024\]](#)

>49 countries, over 3.5 million AIS, 1979 to 2019: 2.2/1000 excess ischemic CVAs with extreme temps (2.5% of hottest days)

Dementia Hospitalizations increase

[Delaney SW, et al. Extreme Heat and Hospitalization Among Older Persons With Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias \[JAMA Netw, 02/3/25\]](#)

Climate and Behavioral Health:

Extreme heat impacts include:

- Irritability/aggression/domestic violence
- Depression
- Increased suicide
- Memory, attention, reaction time
- Sleep changes additive

Climate Anxiety

Air Pollution: Environmental Justice & Health Equity

Vulnerable (Environmental Justice) communities have compounded health risk due to increased air pollution and multiple other factors:

- Often near heavy air pollution sources due to environmental racism by redlining and economic policies.
- Other determinants of health – racism; lower income, safety, and food choices; increased noise; and lack of green spaces and tree cover
- Also, their homes smaller, with older appliances, lacking ventilation hoods to the outside and filtration from bad outdoor air quality.



Health Harm of Gas Stoves

Adds with

Outdoor Pollution Health Harm



- Typical gas stove/oven use can produce unsafe levels of NO₂ and benzene that can linger even in distant bedrooms for hours.
- People living in small homes have 4x more long-term NO₂ exposure than people in larger homes – typical in lower-income, EJ communities.
- American Indian/Alaska Native homes have 60% and Black/Hispanic homes 20% more NO₂ exposure than the national average.
- In the Bay Area, people of color are exposed to 55% more NO₂ pollution than mostly white neighborhoods. (Indoor plus outdoor)



Health Harms of Gas Stoves: Protect Our Families

1. When cooking: open 1-2 windows!
2. Turn on the fan (if available.)
3. Cook on back burners.
4. Use electric appliances like microwaves, tea kettles, air fryers, instant pots, etc whenever possible.
5. Get a portable induction unit, see photo, or full electric or induction stove if possible.



Air Pollution and Climate Change

Related Extreme

Heat Magnify Health Inequities



- Historically redlined communities (BIPOC and low-wealth communities) are often hotter than other neighborhoods.
- Access to cooling centers is more limited in some areas.

Location



- Certain populations are more vulnerable to extreme heat and have less access to healthcare.
- Socially isolated individuals may have less access to cooling centers.

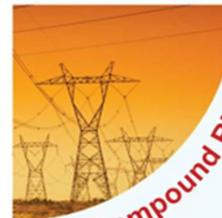


Social and Racial Factors



- Energy costs and the costs of repairs limit the ability to afford air-conditioning.
- Low-wealth residents often live in homes that provide less protection against extreme heat.

Economics



Compound Risks



- COVID-19 protocols reduced the accessibility and effectiveness of cooling centers.
- Disadvantaged populations are more at risk for heat-related illnesses during power outages.

<https://nca2023.globalchange.gov/chapter/15/><https://nca2023.globalchange.gov/chapter/15/>

Health Benefits of Electrification

If we ***stopped*** using **gas for cooking** in California, there would be up to **20% less childhood asthma**.

Completely moving to **heat pumps for water and space heating** in the Bay Area would prevent:

- (37) up to 85 premature deaths, and
- about 110 new cases of asthma annually
- Save ~ \$900 million in health impacts
- Countless emergency room visits, lost days of work and school, and other health harms would also be prevented



Recommendations for Air Pollution and

GHG

Reduction Co-benefits:

-Supporting reductions in FF *extraction, refining* and *usage* have co-benefits of *immediate health improvements* along with longer term climate/GHG benefits.

The outline of your path is in the CCC Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

-Encourage *electrification* with clean energy sources and prioritize your

-An example: *Improved ventilation* is low hanging fruit for adaptation to Air Quality that especially benefits POC and low income who already have increased health burden– Maximize education and access:

- KN95 masks on yellow or greater AQI days
- Low cost Air Filtration, prioritizing low income/POC residents that are most vulnerable to incremental health consequences of AP

END

Science Advisory Panel to Cal GEM Report:

Adverse perinatal outcomes (Prenatal exposure): including preterm births, low birth weight, and small-for-gestational age births, increase the risk of mortality and long-term developmental problems in newborns (Liu et al., 2012; Vogel et al., 2018) as well as longer term morbidity through adulthood (Baer et al., 2016; Barker, 1995; Carmody & Charlton, 2013; Frey & Klebanoff, 2016). Asthma exacerbations, asthma hospitalizations, and respiratory symptoms.

studies consistently demonstrate evidence of harm at distances less than 1 km, and some studies also show evidence of harm linked to OGD activity at distances greater than 1 km. In addition, exposure pathway studies have demonstrated through measurements and modelling techniques, the potential for human exposure to numerous environmental stressors (e.g., air pollutants, water contaminants, noise) at distances less than 1 km (e.g., Allshouse et al., 2019; Holder et al., 2019; McKenzie et al., 2018; DiGiulio et al., 2021; Soriano et al., 2020), and that the likelihood and magnitude of exposure decreases with increasing distance.

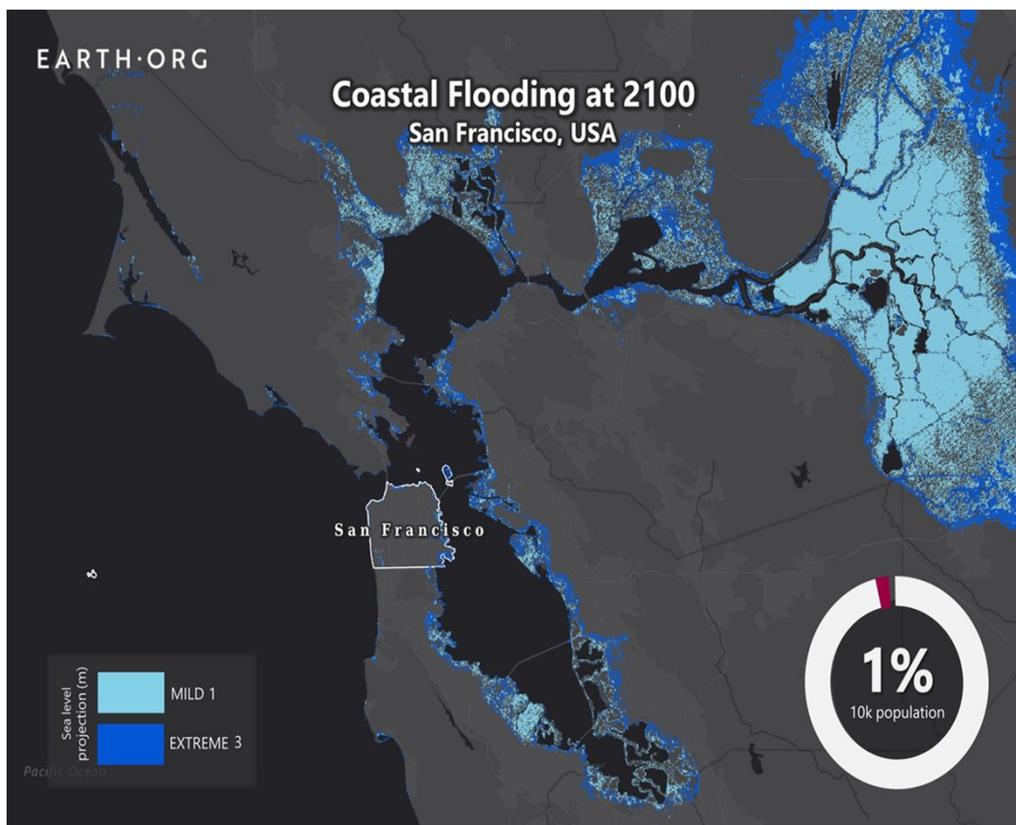
Stanford/UCB

[Gonzalez DJX, et al. 2022 Upstream oil and gas production and ambient air pollution. *Sci Tot Env*](#)

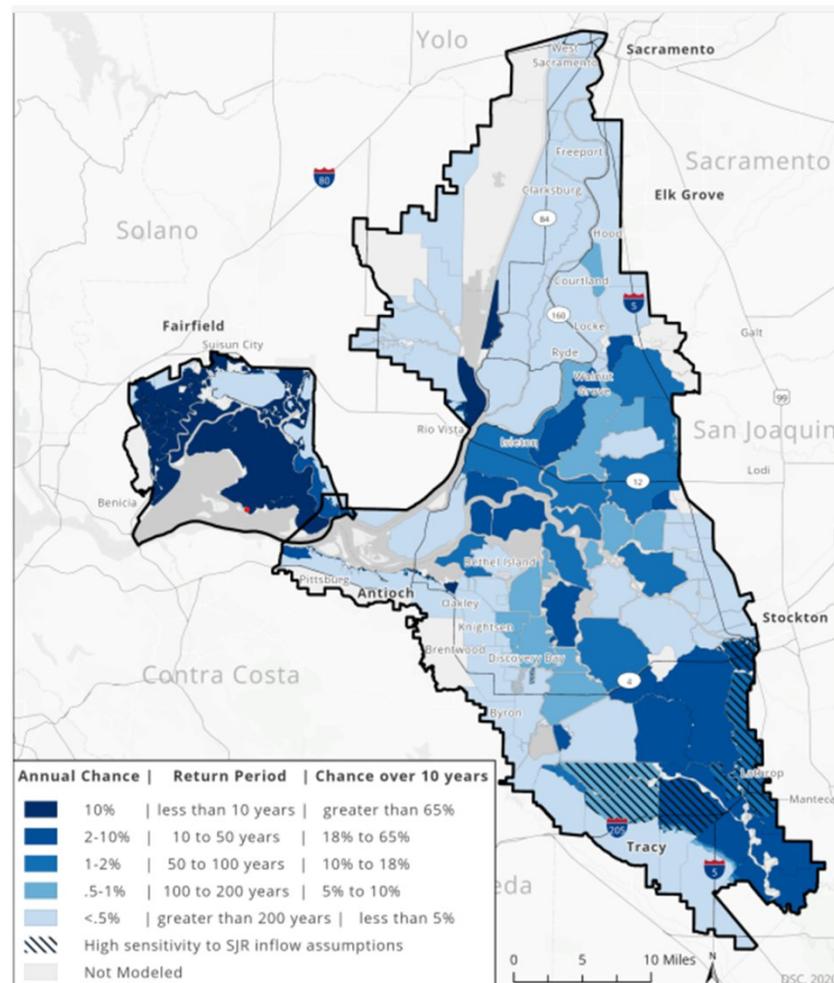
Findings: higher concentrations of ambient air pollutants at air quality monitors in proximity to preproduction wells within 4 km (~2.5mi) and producing wells within 2km (~1.25mi)

NO ESTB SAFE LIMITS

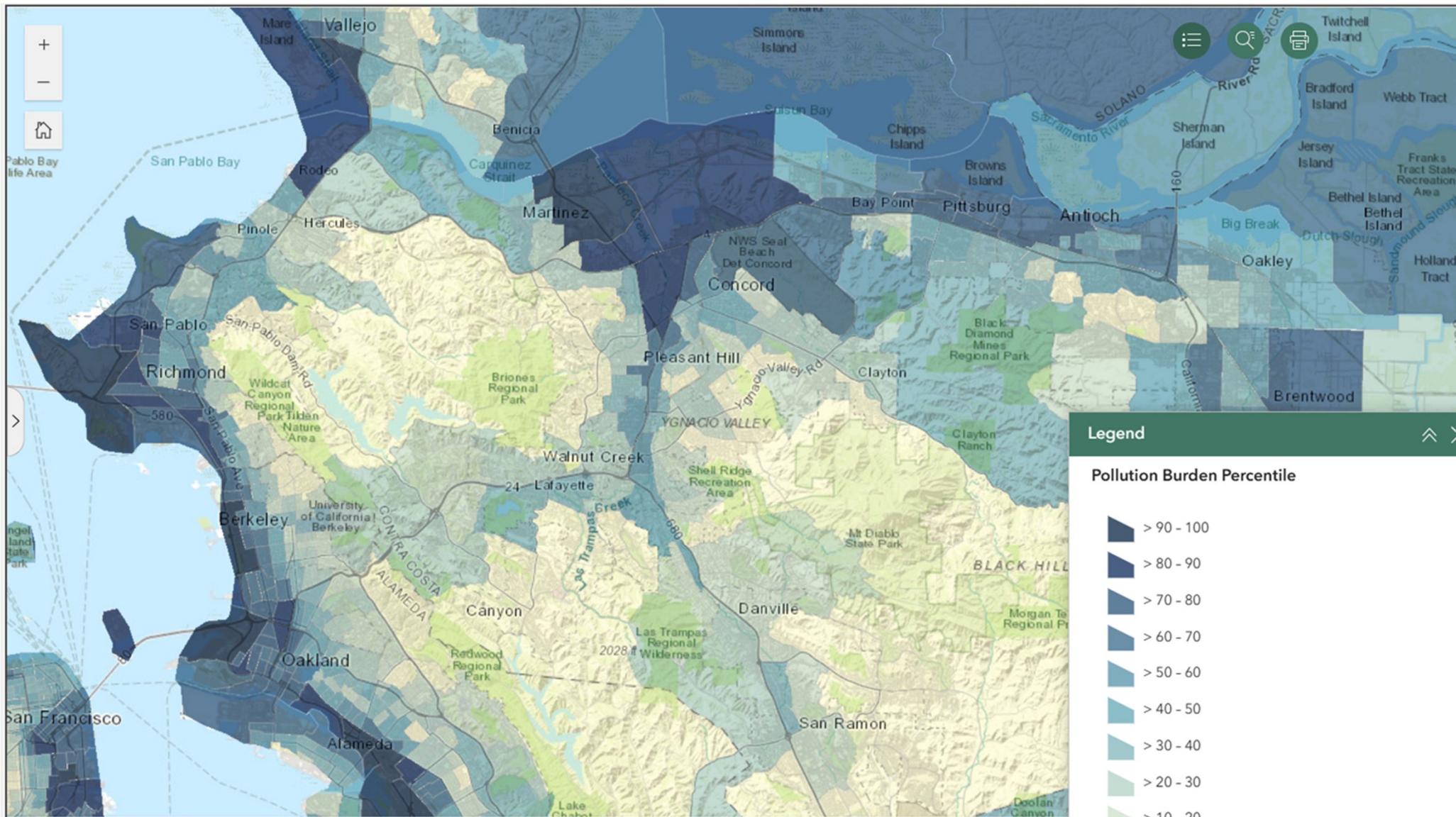
Flooding: California



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Delta Stewardship Council





CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2414

Agenda Date: 7/28/2025

Agenda #: 7.

Advisory Board: SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Subject: Report on Staff Activities that Support Sustainability Goals

Department: Conservation and Development

Presenter: Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator

Contact: Jody London 925-655-2815

Referral History and Update:

This is a standing item of the Commission. At each Commission meeting Sustainability staff provides a report on key County staff sustainability activities. Attached is the report for June 2025.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE Report on Staff Activities that Support Sustainability Goals

Fiscal Impact (if any):

N/A

**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
Department of Conservation and Development	
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 Draft Clean Energy Roadmap for Existing Buildings. The deadline to submit public comments was Thursday, April 24, 2025. During the public comment period, County staff hosted two virtual information sessions (April 9th and April 16th) 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 web site.</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 Bay Point/Pittsburg Energy Enhancement Pilot Program, 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"> • <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. • <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. • <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, 	<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"> • 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. • 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. 	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 6 – Climate Equity Goal 7 - Leadership
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
Health	
<p>Building Healthy Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk and Bike Leaders (WABL): <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>	Goal 4 – Clean Transportation Network Goal 6 – Climate Equity

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 & Hike Club members and the broader student body in hands-on learning and safety activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation Development Act (TDA) Grant: 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"> ○ Helmet Distribution Total Helmets Distributed: 250 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 110 at the Bay Point Bike Rodeo and Safety Fair ▪ 60 to the Muslim Community Center (MCC) ▪ 50 to Monument Impact in Concord ▪ 20 to the Antioch Police Department ▪ 10 at Dover Elementary’s Multicultural Day ○ Bike Rodeos and Safety Education Events Total Bike Rodeos/Hands-On Safety Events: 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Richmond Park Rx– bike rodeo and road safety instruction for kids and families ▪ Bay Point Bike Rodeo and Safety Fair – supported with helmets and the Safe Moves Bicycle Trailer ▪ Balboa Children's Center (Head Start) – bike rodeo for 27 parent-child pairs, including a CHP-led child car seat safety demonstration ▪ Antioch Bicycle Safety Course – supported with helmets and safety materials ○ Safety Presentations and Community Engagement Events Total Presentations/Outreach Events: 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dover Elementary Multicultural Day – engaged students and parents with safety materials and helmet giveaways ▪ East Bay MUD Resource Fair at RYSE Youth Center – promoted active transportation and pedestrian safety ▪ Ongoing engagement with MCC to support pedestrian/bike safety education through resource provision ○ Bike and Pedestrian Safety Resource Sharing Safe Moves Bicycle Trailer Loans: 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concord Police Department – for annual bike rodeo 	

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bay Point Bike Rodeo and Safety Fair ▪ City of Pinole Police Department 	
Library	
<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&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
Ongoing	
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

Attachments



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2415

Agenda Date: 7/28/2025

Agenda #: 8.

Advisory Board: SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Subject: Reports from Sustainability Commission Members and Alternates

Presenter: Demian Hardman-Saldana, Principal Planner

Contact: Demian Hardman-Saldana 925-655-2816

Referral History and Update:

This is a standing item of the Commission. Commission members and alternates may provide updates to the full Commission.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE reports from Sustainability Commission members and alternates, and PROVIDE DIRECTION as needed.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

None.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2416

Agenda Date: 7/28/2025

Agenda #: 9.

Advisory Board: SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Subject: Report from Sustainability Commission Chair and Identify Topics for next Report to the Committee on Sustainability

Presenter: Shoshana Wechsler, Chair

Contact: Commission Staff, Demian Hardman-Saldana, (925) 655-2816

Referral History and Update:

This is a standing item of the Commission. The Sustainability Commission Chair provides an update at each meeting to Commission members on the administration of the Commission, meetings of the Board of Supervisors Committee on Sustainability, and other issues of interest to the Commission.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

RECEIVE Report from Sustainability Commission Chair and IDENTIFY TOPICS for next report to the Committee on Sustainability

Fiscal Impact (if any):

None.