

**SUSTAINABILITY STAFF REPORT FOR
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
November 10, 2025**

Activities that have occurred since the report prepared for the Sustainability Commission's meeting on August 25, 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 selected technical and community engagement subconsultants to support the development of the Contra Costa Resilient Shoreline Plan. Staff are in the process of contracting with both the technical and community engagement subconsultants. Applications for the Contra Costa County Shoreline Leadership Academy closed on October 15, 2025. Staff are coordinating with the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission and larger Shoreline Leadership Academy team to select academy participants and continue curriculum development. The Contra Costa County Shoreline Leadership Academy will begin in January 2026 and will complement the County's work funded through its Ocean Protection Council Senate Bill (SB) 1 Grant.	Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure
Staff continues to work and plan the activities funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG). 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. This task is ongoing and expected to be completed by the end of 2025. Staff will be releasing a solicitation to select an entity to implement energy efficiency upgrades for licensed childcare facilities in August/September. It was planned to be released in July, but additional time was needed to refine the scope of work and ensure it complies with the Federal Government priorities. Once the solicitation is released, we will also execute the contract 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.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 6 – Climate Equity
Staff have entered into contracts with partners for the Urban Forest Management Plan (The Watershed Project, Sustainable Contra Costa, Civicorps, Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County). Rincon Consultants is being retained after a competitive bid process to provide the technical support for developing the Plan. The project team is beginning work on all aspects of the project and will soon begin recruiting for the Learning Academy, a program open to residents in	Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
Impacted Communities. The team is also planning for an initial tree planting demonstration, tentatively looking at December 13 at a location in Bay Point.	
The Draft Clean Energy Roadmap for Existing Buildings will be recommended to the Board of Supervisors to consider for adoption in November.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment
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 continues to contest the termination.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure Goal 6 – Climate Equity
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 ended on June 30, 2025. After the first phase ended, the Pilot Program was extended due to remaining funding with expanded eligibility from July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, or when funding ran out, whichever came first. Since then, all available rebates have been reserved, and the Pilot Program is not accepting any more Rebate Reservation Forms.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 6 – Climate Equity
Climate Emergency Resolution: • <i>Just Transition.</i> <u>County staff anticipate releasing a Request for Qualifications for the Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan on October 24, 2025, with a due date for submissions of November 21, 2025.</u> • <i>Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force.</i> The G3 Champion meeting on October 8 covered the County's progress and processes related to purchasing recycled-content paper products; low-waste office events; and a brainstorming session on communicating the CAAP's goals and opportunities to get involved in implementation. • <i>All-Electric Building Ordinance.</i> On May 1, 2025, a new ordinance adopted by the County went into effect 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. Once the appropriate energy modeling and cost-effective studies have been completed, staff will begin analyzing how the County's more stringent energy efficiency ordinance will be affected by the new 2025 Building Code that will become effective on January 1, 2026. Staff is also looking at other building types to consider for higher energy efficiency standards in the future under the new 2025 Building Code. In November the County Board of Supervisor's will be considering adopting several local building code amendments to be included as part of its adoption of the State's 2025 Building Code.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 7 - Leadership

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
Staff organized the third quarter Energy Efficiency Collaborative on October 2, 2025, to discuss outreach opportunities related to BayREN's new income-qualified single-family program, EASE Home; learn about the Bay Area SunShares Program; and hear about potential building code updates.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment
Staff is planning for the fourth quarter meeting of the All-Electric Working Group later this year.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment
Staff organized the third quarter Sustainability Exchange on September 11, 2025. Sustainability Exchange attendees learned about local environmental education at the Carquinez Regional Environmental Education Center (CREEC) in Crockett from CREEC and Contra Costa Resource Conservation District staff. Attendees had the opportunity to support future restoration efforts by repotting native grasses at the CREEC greenhouse. After the restoration activity, a subset of the Sustainability Exchange visited the Crockett Historical Museum and were accompanied by the museum's wonderful volunteers.	Goal 7 - Leadership
Staff are participating in a proceeding at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC, R. 24-09-012) to implement Senate Bill 1221 (2024). SB 1221 requires the CPUC to identify up to 30 neighborhoods that will be pilot projects where gas lines will be removed rather than replaced. The County is participating in order to monitor the potential for neighborhoods in Contra Costa County to participate in this program, if that is of interest to residents. The County submitted opening comments on August 8 that describe the County's work to bring clean energy to homes and businesses and highlight issues to consider. On September 10, the County submitted reply comments that recommend the CPUC focus on facilitating as many pilots as possible in order to explore what works, and what does not, when converting neighborhoods to all-electric. The CPUC is expected to issue guidance on how this process will proceed by the end of the year.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment
Staff are participating in the Rising Sun Center for Opportunity's Climate Careers Externship Program. Staff are working with an extern from August through November to update the energy efficiency toolkits offered as part of the Contra Costa Library's Library of Things.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficiency Built Environment
Staff, in partnership with the Ambrose Recreation and Park District, were awarded a \$25,000 PG&E Resilience Hubs Feasibility Study Grant . The grant will be used to fund an analysis of the Ambrose Community Center in Bay Point to determine what is needed for the Ambrose Community Center to act as a resilience hub for the community. The project will leverage BayREN's new Energy Roadmapping service for free technical and engineering support to analyze the Ambrose Community Center's existing energy usage and identify opportunities for cost-effective energy savings and resilience measures. This may include analyzing the size of a battery storage system to complement the site's existing solar panels. The project will help inform the County's CAAP strategy to establish and maintain resilience hubs.	Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure
Staff completed an update of the County's greenhouse gas emissions inventory, looking at both community-wide emissions and emissions from County operations. The inventory was presented earlier in today's meeting.	Goal 8 - Implementation

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
The fall 2025 issue of the quarterly Sustainability in Contra Costa County newsletter was published on September 30, 2025. The newsletter included articles on the Contra Costa County Shoreline Leadership Academy, the BayREN Business Program, Bay Area SunShares, and more. See Sustainability in Contra Costa County Fall 2025	Goal 7 - Leadership
DCD Transportation Planning staff, in collaboration with the Public Works Energy Manager and 511 Contra Costa, administered an employee commute survey. Over 2,300 County employees participated in the survey, over 20%. The results were shared earlier in the October 27, 2025, Sustainability Commission meeting.	Goal 5 – Clean Transportation Network
In the community: - Nicole Shimizu (Sustainability) and Humberto Rodriguez (Weatherization) attended the 2025 County Block Party on August 28, 2025 at the Antioch Community Center to share information about energy efficiency programs, the County Weatherization Program, and relevant sustainability initiatives. In case you missed the event, the Contra Costa County Office of Communications and Media produced two videos covering the event (English video; Spanish video). - Ryan Hernandez attended a Coastal Cleanup Day on September 20, 2025 in North Richmond to promote the Contra Costa County Shoreline Leadership Academy and the Contra Costa Resilient Shoreline Plan.	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	
Community Wellness Program - One Bay Area Grant 3: Street Smarts Contra Costa - Starting this school year, 2025-2026, the Building Healthy Communities (BHC) Program launched a new Safe Routes to School program called Street smarts Contra Costa. - The BHC Program is one of three providers of Street Smarts Contra Costa - a countywide Safe Routes to School initiative funded by the One Bay Area Grant program. Contra Costa Transportation Authority serves as the prime recipient of the grant and countywide coordinator of Street Smarts Contra Costa. - The BHC Program offers Street Smarts Contra Costa to all public schools in West Contra Costa (West Contra Costa Unified and John Swett Unified) and public high schools in Central and East Contra Costa (Liberty Union High School District, Antioch Unified, Pittsburg Unified, Mt. Diablo Unified, and Martinez Unified). - Schools in this service area may request Safe Routes to School programming by completing a Resource Request Form - Program offerings include in-class bicycle and pedestrian safety education, walk & roll to school technical assistance, lunchtime bicycle and pedestrian encouragement activities, and active transportation club development.	Goal 4 – Clean Transportation Network Goal 6 – Climate Equity

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
Street Smarts Contra Costa (Diablo) offers the program to public elementary and middle schools in Central and East Contra Costa and in Lamorinda. In the San Ramon Valley, Street Smarts Contra Costa (San Ramon Valley) offers the program to all grade-levels.	
Library	
Sustainability staff are working with Library staff to update the energy efficiency toolkits, as described above.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 7 – Leadership
Sustainability staff are working with Library staff to develop opportunities to use Library branches to engage with community members on CAAP implementation.	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
