

Sustainability Staff Report for Sustainability Committee

May 11, 2026

This report provides updates on activities that have occurred since Sustainability Committee's meeting on March 9, 2026, are listed below. For each activity, the report indicates how it supports the goals in the 2024 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

Department of Conservation and Development

- Staff continue to work with consultants to develop the [Contra Costa Resilient Shoreline Plan](#). This work is compliant with Senate Bill (SB) 272 and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission's (BCDC) Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan. This work is funded through the County's Ocean Protection Council SB 1 Grant. The County submitted its Notice of Intent to initiate a Subregional Shoreline Adaptation Plan to BCDC. The County held the preliminary consultation meeting on April 15, 2026.

The Shoreline Leadership Academy continues to meet twice a month at different shoreline locations. Academy members learned about permitting and collaborative governance during the March 7 session at Pacheco Marsh. Members learned about shoreline contamination during the March 21 session, which was held on Zoom. Members were welcomed by Supervisor Gioia during the April 4 session at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline. They then donned boots at low tide and looked at the oyster reef balls (pictured below). During the April 18 session, members rode Amtrak from Richmond to Martinez to observe firsthand the relationship between transportation and transit and sea level rise. The program will conclude in June.

CAAP Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure



- Staff are in full swing to develop the Tree Plan. The Tree Plan will be a roadmap for addressing the impacts of extreme heat by increasing tree canopy cover in the unincorporated areas of the County. This project is funded by an extreme heat grant from the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation.

The Tree Plan Learning Academies for east and west counties have been meeting monthly since February. They will meet through June. The first session focused on the benefits of trees for public health and reducing impacts of extreme heat. The second session focused on how to plant and care for trees. The third session will focus on how tree planting lists are developed.

The Advisory Working Group held its first meeting on February 25. It brings together staff from various County departments, partner agencies, community groups, and community members to

inform staff and consultants on tree planting lists, best practices, policies, funding options, and implementation of the Tree Plan. The first meeting in February focused on the vision and purpose of the Tree Plan. The second meeting on March 30 focused on the draft tree canopy and heat assessment. The Advisory Working Group will meet through 2026. The Tree Plan is expected to be completed in the second half of 2027.

People interested in tracking the progress of this project should [register for the mailing list](#).

CAAP Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure



- Staff continue working on a [feasibility study](#) of what would be needed for the Ambrose Community Center to serve as a **climate resilience hub**. This project is funded through a grant from PG&E. This project also is receiving assistance from the Bay Area Regional Energy Network's Energy Roadmapping program. The information learned from the project will inform the County's work to establish a network of resilience hubs across the county, as directed in the CAAP.

Staff are conducting a [community needs survey](#) of community members about the features they would like to see at a resilience hub. Outreach to increase participation in the survey has included mailing postcards to 6,131 residences near the community center; conducting community events; advertising on social media; and tabling at existing events.

On April 1, 2026, Sustainability Service Corps Fellow Blake McPherson collaborated with the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District at a meeting with the Bay Point community about the green infrastructure and resilience hub projects focused on the Ambrose Community Center. Blake conducted additional outreach activities to increase response to the community needs survey by collaborating with Meals on Wheels at their Ambrose Community Center senior lunch and bingo event on April 3, 2026, and making a presentation to the Bay Point Municipal Advisory Council on April 7, 2026.

CAAP 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 existing buildings in the unincorporated areas of the county to all-electric. This supports the County's Clean Energy Roadmap. A draft of the inventory and cost analysis is expected to be completed very soon.

In April, staff issued a solicitation for an entity to perform energy efficiency upgrades and all-electric retrofits for licensed, home-based childcare facilities. The County is partnering with CoCoKids to help identify eligible facilities. Retrofit work for the home-based childcare facilities is expected to start in July.

CAAP Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment

CAAP Goal 6 – Climate Equity

- Staff are working with community groups and other partners to develop proposals for the Bay Area Air District’s REPAIR grant program (Reinvesting Penalties for Air Improvement and Resilience). This grant program is supported by fines on refineries. It will provide funds for projects that reduce air pollution, improve public health, and build community resilience. Staff are preparing two grant applications, a \$15 million proposal for North Richmond and a \$5 million proposal for communities along the northern waterfront.

CAAP Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment

CAAP Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure

CAAP Goal 6 – Climate Equity

CAAP Goal 7 – Leadership

- The Board of Supervisors received the [Climate Action and Adaptation Plan \(CAAP\) 2025 Progress Report](#) at its March 31, 2026, meeting. This report provides the first annual progress update on implementation of the updated CAAP since it was adopted in November 2024.

CAAP Goal 8 - Implementation

- The March 24, 2026, [All-Electric Working Group](#) (AEWG) meeting included presentations on contractor training for heat pump water heaters (in advance of Bay Area Air District’s new rules); Richmond’s Clean Energy and Healthy Homes Campaign to convert entire city blocks to all-electric; and California’s Equitable Building Decarbonization Program, which offers free upgrades in underserved areas. The group also discussed project funding and partnership opportunities.

CAAP Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment

- Staff organized the first quarter **Energy Efficiency Collaborative** on April 8, 2026. Attendees learned about program updates and outreach opportunities for the BayREN EASE Home program, the Rising Sun Center for Opportunity’s in-person Green House Calls, and upcoming realtor trainings and developed messaging for these programs for use at Earth Day events.

CAAP Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment

- Staff organized the first quarter [Sustainability Exchange](#) on March 12, 2026. Jody London shared the history of the Sustainability Exchange and how the group’s successful Air District grant application led to the [Cleaner Contra Costa Challenge](#). Tina Neuhausel from Sustainable Contra Costa provided a presentation on the Cleaner Contra Costa Challenge platform.

CAAP Goal 7 - Leadership

Climate Emergency Resolution:

- *Just Transition*. No update at this time.
- *Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force*. The G3 Champions meeting on April 8 included information on retirement program investment options for County employees that incorporate environmental, sustainability, and governance goals; Bike to Work Day; and Earth Day events.
- *All-Electric Building Ordinance*. The ordinance went into effect on May 1, 2025.

CAAP Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment

- The [spring 2026 issue](#) of the quarterly Sustainability in Contra Costa County newsletter was published on March 24, 2026. The newsletter included articles on an Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Workshop that sustainability staff helped organize for the Governor’s Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation; the Resilience Hub Survey for the Ambrose Community Center; the Resilient Shoreline and Tree Plan leadership academy programs; Heat Pump Week; Earth Month events; and more.

In the community:

- Jody London attended the East Bay Economic Development Alliance Innovation Awards on March 26.
- Jody London participated in the second [Contra Costa Together](#) summit on April 16. Contra Costa Together is a network of residents, community-based organizations, systems partners, and funders coming together to help build a county where all people belong and thrive.
- Jody London participated in a panel discussion at San Francisco Climate Week on “A Regional Approach to Resilience.”

CAAP Goal 6 – Climate Equity

CAAP Goal 7 – Leadership

Contra Costa Health

Contra Costa Green Business Program

Green Business Staff gave presentations to the following community groups:

- EBMUD’s Green Bag Employee Sustainability Lunch on March 4, 2026
- The Latina Center (Spanish presentation) on March 31, 2026
- Saint Mary’s College Health Communications class on April 13, 2026

Staff conducted outreach and tabled at the following community events:

- Sustainable Walnut Creek’s Green Movie Night and Expert Panel, *The Story of Plastic* on April 17, 2026
- John Muir Earth Day Birthday on April 18, 2026



CAAP Goal 7 – Leadership

Department of Public Works

Transportation Engineering

Public Works staff leveraged an opportunity with the 2026 Rodeo Fiberized Slurry Seal, Overlays, and Curb Ramps project to install bike lanes to continue building out the County's bicycle network. Instead of replacing the newly resurfaced roadway with the same traffic striping, the contractor will instead install 0.4 miles of Class II bicycle lanes along Viewpoint Boulevard from Willow Avenue to Sandpoint Drive. Work is expected to begin in Summer 2026.

CAAP Goal 4 – Clean Transportation Network