


SUSTAINABILITY STAFF REPORT FOR SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION August 25, 2025

Activities that have occurred since the report prepared for the Sustainability Commission's meeting on June 23, 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	
<p>Staff released two Requests for Proposals for technical and community engagement subconsultants to support the development of the Contra Costa Resilient Shoreline Plan. 8 proposals were received. Staff anticipate contracting and onboarding both the technical and community engagement subconsultants in the fall.</p> <p>Staff are coordinating with the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission on the Contra Costa County Shoreline Leadership Academy, which will complement the County's work funded through its Ocean Protection Council Senate Bill (SB) 1 Grant.</p> <p>Staff successfully submitted the first Ocean Protection Council SB 1 Grant quarterly report.</p>	Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure
<p>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).</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 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.</p>	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 6 – Climate Equity
Staff are in the process of entering 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. We will be kicking off the project in early September.	Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
In March 2025, the County accepted public comments on its Draft Clean Energy Roadmap for Existing Buildings . County staff is finalizing its review of all comments received and is expected to bring a Final Draft of roadmap to the Sustainability Committee at its September meeting for a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to consider for adoption later this year.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment
<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.</p> <p>The County submitted a declaration that was included in a Class Action Lawsuit filed on June 25 suing the Trump administration for unlawful termination of the EPA's Section 138 Environmental and Climate Justice Grant Program. A first hearing was held on August 5, 2025.</p>	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment</p> <p>Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure</p> <p>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 ended on June 30, 2025.</p> <p>Due to remaining available funding, the Pilot Program has been extended with expanded eligibility from July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, or when funding runs out, whichever comes first.</p>	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment</p> <p>Goal 6 – Climate Equity</p>
<p>Climate Emergency Resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Just Transition</i>. No change from prior report provided in June. • <i>Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force</i>. The G3 Champion meeting on August 13 included presentations on: interdepartmental County projects that are helping meet CAAP goals; the ongoing employee commute survey; and how one G3 Champion incorporates the G3 Champion mission into her department's work. • <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. Staff is currently 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. A report on the County's local building code amendments being considered as part of the State's 2025 Building Code will be provided at the September 8, 2025, meeting of the Sustainability Committee. 	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment</p> <p>Goal 7 - Leadership</p>
Staff organized the second quarter Energy Efficiency Collaborative on June 25, 2025, to discuss the County's Clean Energy Roadmap for Existing Buildings and an upcoming study by MCE focused on permitting processes for heat pump HVAC and heat pump water heaters.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
Staff facilitated the third quarter All-Electric Working Group meeting on August 19, 2025. The meeting featured presentations from GRID Alternatives and RCF on the all-electric programs they operate, and discussion among participants about how to support and leverage this work in Contra Costa County. Meeting participants included staff from cities, community groups, unions, contractors, MCE, and individuals, as well as the County.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment
Staff are participating in a proceeding at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) 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 Rulemaking 24-09-012 in order to monitor the potential for neighborhoods in Contra Costa County to participate in this program, if that is of interest to residents.	Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment
Staff are participating in the Rising Sun Center for Opportunity’s Climate Careers Externship Program. Staff will be working with an extern from August through November to update the energy efficiency kits offered as part of the Contra Costa Library network’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 help inform the County’s CAAP strategy to establish and maintain resilience hubs.	Goal 5 – Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure
<p>DCD Transportation Planning staff report the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February 2025, DCD was awarded \$425,000 from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s Regional Measure 3 – Safe Routes to Transit and Bay Trail Program to conduct the San Pablo Avenue Enhanced Bicycle and Pedestrian Gap Closure Study. The study will evaluate enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities along San Pablo Avenue between Richmond Parkway and the Pinole/Hercules border, which is a proposed segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail. The City of Pinole will be a partner on the study. • In March 2025, DCD was awarded \$400,000 from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) Planning Grant – Station Access and Circulation to conduct the Pleasant Hill BART Station Access Gap and Mobility Hub Planning effort. This effort will help achieve TOC compliance for station access and circulation for the Pleasant Hill BART Station. • In July 2025, DCD was awarded \$442,650 from the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program to conduct the Bay Point Enhanced Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Study. The study will evaluate enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities along the Willow Pass Road and Port Chicago Highway corridors in Bay Point. 	Goal 5 – Clean Transportation Network

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DCD was a partner in a proposal to the Strategic Growth Council's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Grant Program in May 2025. The proposal would construct a portion of Orbisonia Village, a mixed-use development with 100% affordable residential units adjacent to the Pittsburg-Bay Point BART Station, along with bicycle, pedestrian, and transit improvements to support mobility for Orbisonia Village residents and patrons. The proposal also requests funding to enhance Tri Delta Transit bus operations to the development site. The proposal requests \$50 million in AHSC funding. 	
<p>In the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emily Groth attended the Bay Point Community Resource Fair, organized by the District 5 Supervisor's Office, on August 16 to share information about energy efficiency programs and the County's sea level rise planning work, as well as ask residents about the features they would like to see in a resilience hub at the Ambrose Community Center. 	<p>Goal 1 – Clean and Efficient Built Environment Goal 6 – Climate Equity Goal 7 - Leadership</p>
<p>Sustainability staff continue to monitor state and federal grant opportunities and prepare to apply for projects that will support key climate goals around all-electric buildings, active transportation, sea level rise, climate resilience, and Just Transition.</p>	<p>All</p>
Public Works	
<p>On July 30, 2025, Public Works was awarded \$4,360,000 from the Active Transportation Program for the Verde K-8 Safe Routes to School project, which will improve pedestrian infrastructure along Market Avenue and the intersection of Giarmita Street at Verde Avenue. The project also includes a non-infrastructure component to support active transportation education for students of the Verde K-8 School.</p>	<p>Goal 5 – Clean Transportation Network</p>
<p>In early August 2025, Public Works had to cease design on the North Bailey Road Active Transportation Corridor project due to reprioritization of projects to repair damaged and failed roads resulting from the 2022-2023 severe storm events. Due to this reprioritization, meeting the grant funding deadlines was no longer attainable. The project was awarded Active Transportation Program and Safe Routes to BART grant funds, which will be returned to their respective sources. Public Works will continue to pursue the project at a later date after identifying future funding opportunities and securing the necessary resources to complete the project.</p>	<p>Goal 5 – Clean Transportation Network</p>
Health	
<p>Building Healthy Communities Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> California Office of Traffic Safety, Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Grant, FFY25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated with back-to-school, the BHC Program relaunched its traffic safety campaign "Slow Roads Save Lives / <i>Calles Lentas Salvan</i> 	<p>Goal 4 – Clean Transportation Network Goal 6 – Climate Equity</p>

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
<p><i>Vidas.</i>” The advertisements will appear on 18 billboards across the county from August through September. One version of the advertisement features a child wearing a backpack preparing to enter a crosswalk. The other version of the advertisement features a child riding a bike, wearing a backpack and a helmet. The ads are co-branded with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Additionally, the BHC program will distribute 3’ x 6’ vinyl banners of the campaign to ten public schools across the county with the highest rates of bicycle and pedestrian serious injuries and deaths within a half mile radius of the school campus. ○ Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Transportation Development Act Article 3 (TDA3): Throughout the summer, the BHC Program provided bike and pedestrian safety resources and encouragement activities to several communities, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On June 25, the BHC program partnered with 511 Contra Costa during a Contra Costa County Library Summer Exploration Station event at the Hercules Library. BHC and 511 staff facilitated a bike blender demonstration where families and children had the opportunity to try the BHC bike blender—using pedal power to blend healthy smoothies. Over 50 residents participated in this activity. ○ On July 24, the BHC Program hosted a bicycle and pedestrian safety booth at the PASOS x Thrive Thursdays community wellness event held at Nicholl Park in Richmond. Staff provided bike/ped incentives, shared safety tips for active travel, and fitted seven participants with new helmets, along with helmet safety fliers. ○ On August 14, the BHC program facilitated a bike rodeo safety course activity at the final session of the PASOS x Thrive Thursdays community wellness series. Staff provided personalized bicycle safety instruction to eight children and fitted five children with new helmets. ● New Funding: The BHC Program will serve as a subrecipient of the County Public Works Department’s \$4,360,000 award in grant funding from the Caltrans Active Transportation Program Cycle 7 for the Verde K-8 Safe Routes to School Project in North Richmond. The BHC Program will receive \$500,0000 to support non-infrastructure safe routes to school programing at Verde K-8 School. The Program will provide encouragement, engagement, and education programming through community outreach such as participation in community events, walking field trips, bike rodeos, walking school buses, classroom presentations, and parent/guardian events. 	
Ongoing	

ACTIVITY	2024 CAAP GOAL
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
