

County of San Diego



A Collaborative Effort to Lower the Region's Carbon Footprint

December 6, 2022

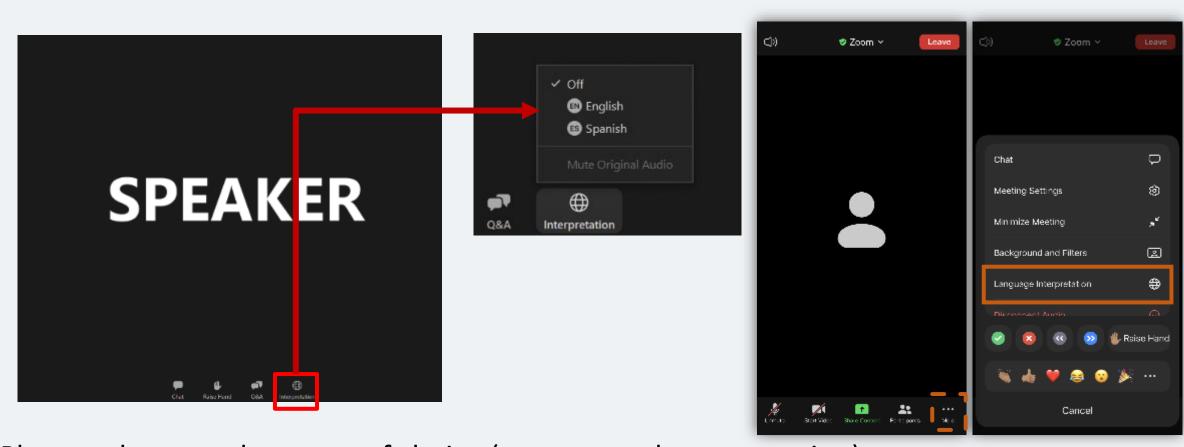
Learning from Our Past



As we begin our journey on taking care of our common home, we acknowledge the unceded territory and ancestral land of the 17 tribal nations in the region – the most in any county in the United States.

Kumeyaay/Diegueño Luiseño Cupeño Cahuilla

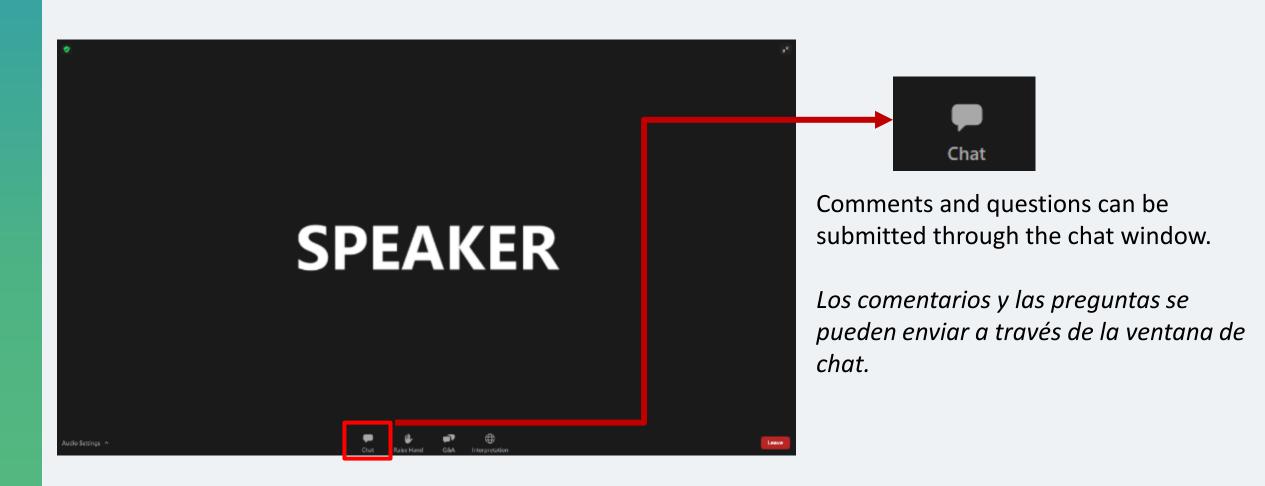
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Please select your language of choice (you must select one option)

Debe seleccionar el idioma de su preferencia (Tiene que escoger un idioma)

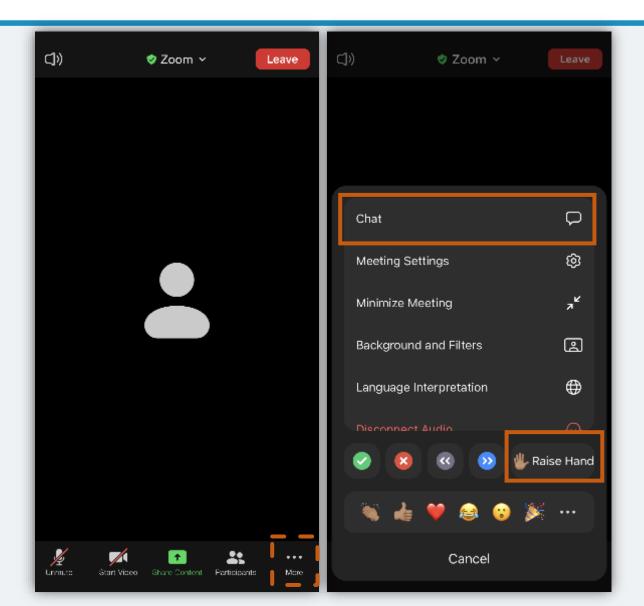
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San Diego Regional Decarbonization Framework



INITIATIVE

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What is climate change?

- Change in the average, longterm weather patterns
- Carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" (GHGs) warm the planet
- Warming has caused changes in the global climate, including changes to rainfall, snowfall, temperature

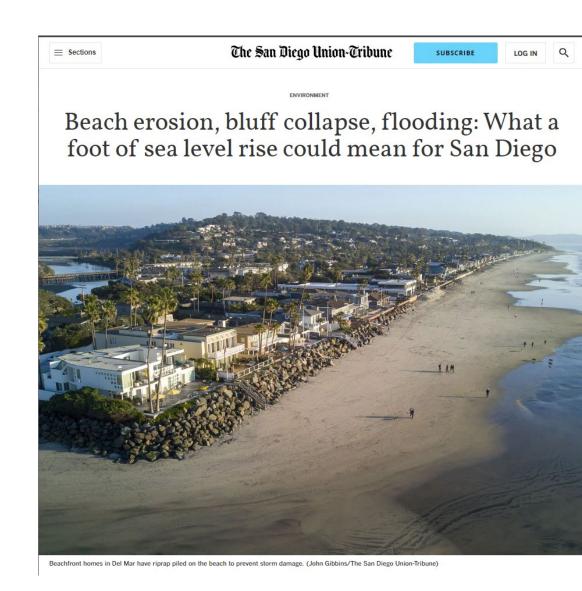


Why does climate change matter?



Addressing historic environmental inequality

- Some communities have historically had more environmental issues than others
 - Hot temperatures
 - Poor outdoor air quality
 - Flooding, sea level rise
- The San Diego region is anticipated to experience more intense heat events, droughts, and wildfires.



What the biggest source of emissions in our region?



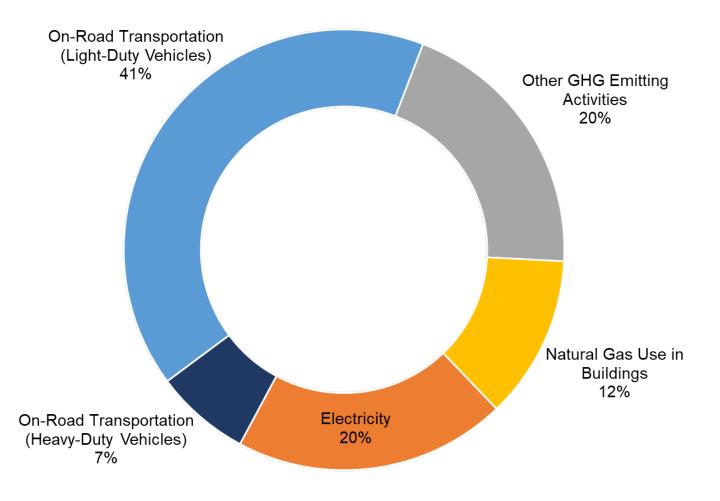
What are the biggest sources of emissions in the San Diego Region?











Climate change policies

- United States:
 - Federal bills have money to help communities reduce their emissions
- California:
 - Net zero emissions by 2045
 - 100% renewable energy on the grid by 2045
 - All sales of new cars will be electric by 2035
 - New budget allocates money to replace fossil fuel-based heating systems in homes
 - Preserve 30% of land and marine habitats by 2030
- The region is planning to get to zero emissions, i.e., decarbonization





Equity: not leaving anyone behind when addressing climate change

- We need to ensure that communities of concern benefit from climate investments:
 - Install solar panels
 - Install electric vehicle charging stations
 - Investments in zero emissions and expanded transit
 - Replace residential natural gas systems with electric systems
 - Plant trees and green spaces
- Justice40 Initiative federal climate investment spending goals
- Job inequities



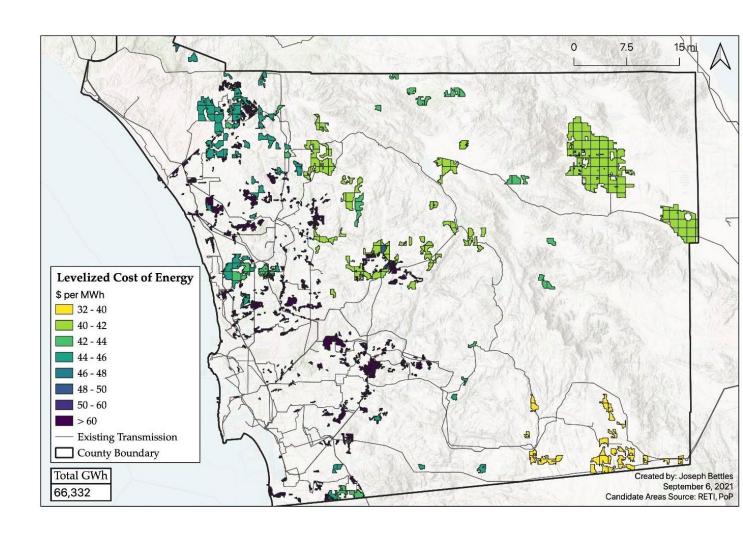
Integrated Regional Decarbonization Framework





Technical Report - Electricity

- We need a greener electric grid to power our region
- There is space to build solar and wind power throughout the region
 - Large solar and wind plants
 - Rooftop solar
 - Community solar
- Solar and wind energy locations have trade-offs, like costs, land use, level of environmental damage



Technical Report – Transportation

- On-road transportation (cars, trucks, and buses) create the most emissions in our region
- Two important solutions:
 - Reduce the number of miles each person drives, through increasing access to efficient public transit, increasing carpooling, making communities safer for biking or walking, or reducing travel distances
 - Electrify cars, buses, trucks, and trains
- Important for reducing air pollution



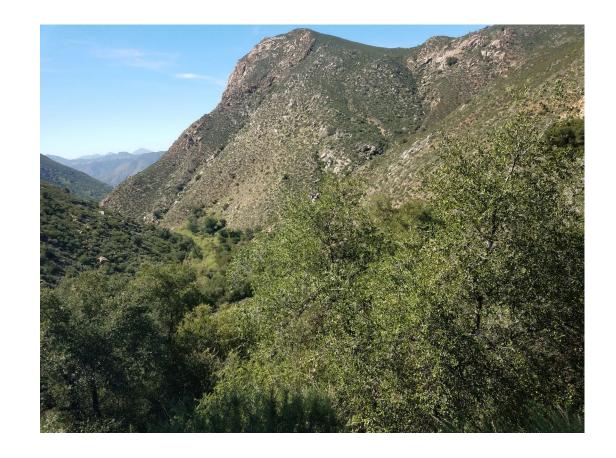
Technical Report – Buildings

- Most emissions come from fossil fuel-based heating systems
 - Space heater
 - Water heater
- Replace these systems with electric systems when the gas systems break, not install new gas systems in new buildings
- Make sure that everyone can switch as soon as possible, so no one is left behind

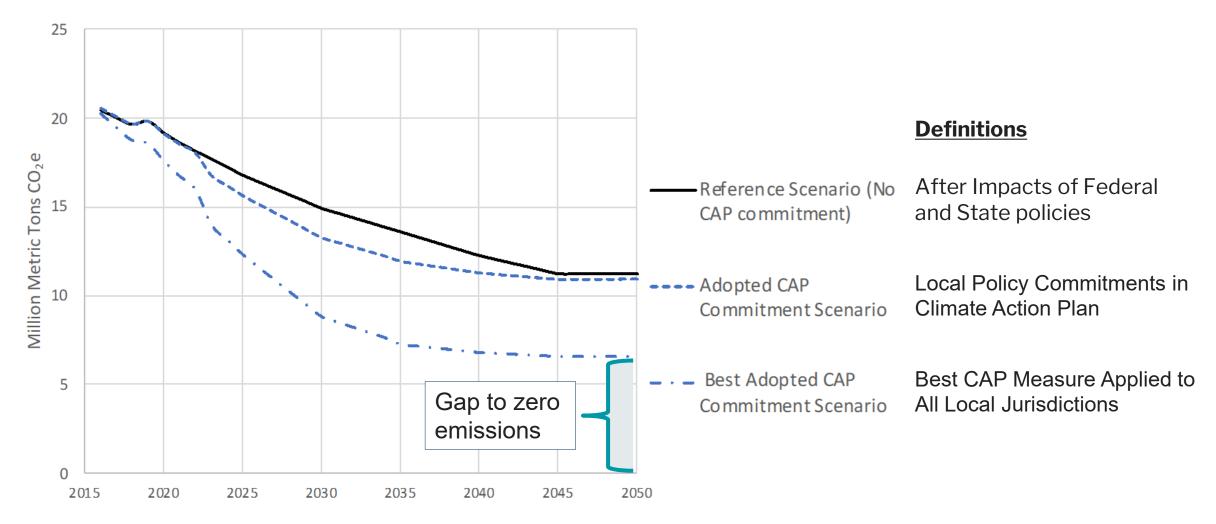


Technical Report – Land Use

- Natural lands (like forests, shrublands, wetlands, grasslands, and deserts) and agricultural lands naturally capture and store carbon
- Protecting and restoring these lands can help to fight climate change
- These lands also clean the air and water, provide habitat for wildlife, and provide food and recreation



The best climate action plans (CAPs) won't get us to zero



This chart does not include all GHG emitting activities in San Diego Region, or potential new local, state, and federal actions that could be adopted in the future.

Energy Policy Initiatives Center, 2022

Employment impacts of climate investments



Technical Report

- Climate investments can create
 ~27,000 per year through 2030,
 resulting in a net increase in jobs
 through 2030
- Changes after that depend on policy choices
- Possible to create high quality,
 "high road," green jobs through policy decisions

What are "high-road jobs"?



Job quality:

- Family-supporting wages and benefits
- High standards for health and safety
- Long-term career pathways
- Worker protections including the right to organize

Job access:

- Access and entry-points to good jobs for local workers
- Training to support advancement

A win-win approach for employers and community: employers gain access to skilled and committed workers, and community members gain access to good careers.

Ensuring good outcomes for workers

- Strategies that have helped workers elsewhere that are applicable to the San Diego region:
 - Support workers in new and expanding sectors through ensuring these jobs are high quality
 - Support workers in declining sectors
 - Create job training programs that support a just transition
 - Develop partnerships for federal and state funding opportunities





Conclusion

- Climate change is having a real impact on our communities
- Goal to reduce our regional emissions significantly over next 30 years
- Climate justice and engagement from all communities to shape investments, policies, and job impacts of decarbonization



Thank you

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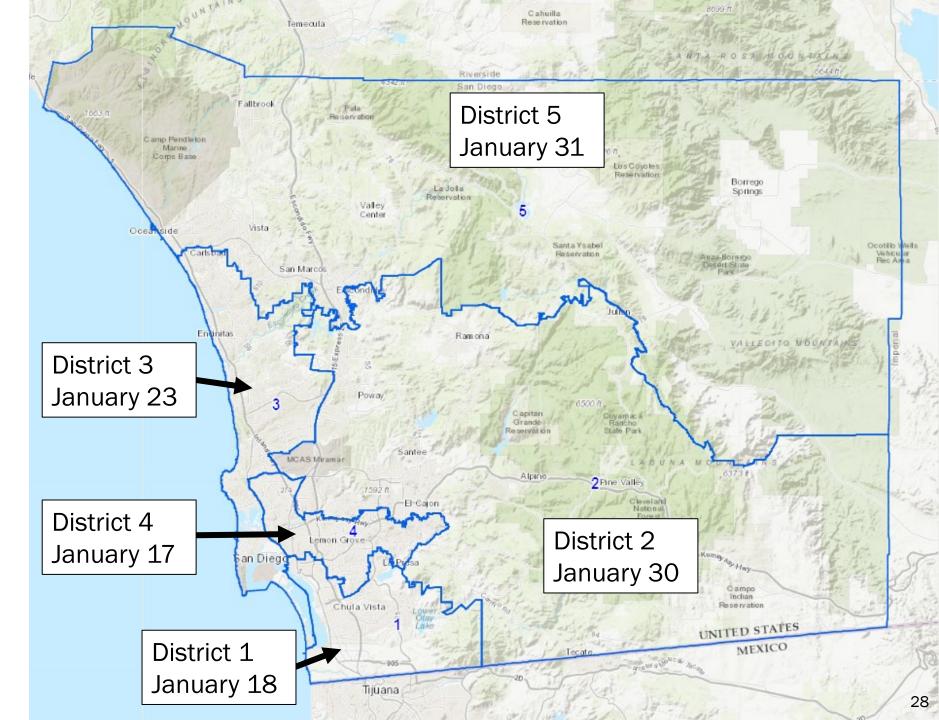
Next Steps

- Implementation Playbook
 - A free resource of possible actions for individuals, organizations, communities, and the whole region to reduce their emissions
 - Available for public comment soon



Regional Convenings

- Hybrid events, one per district
- Opportunities to comment on how climate change is affecting you





County of San Diego



Office of Sustainability and Environmental Justice:

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/osej

Regional Decarbonization Framework:

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/RDF

Email: ZeroCarbon@sdcounty.ca.gov