

Resolution No.
Meeting Date: 11/4/2021

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO DEVELOPMENT OF A FRAMEWORK FOR A REGIONAL CARBON SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO SCHOOL OF GLOBAL POLICY AND STRATEGY

WHEREAS, the Mission of the San Diego County Air Pollution District is to *improve air quality to protect public health and the environment*; and

WHEREAS, the District has a history of collaborating with member cities, agencies, universities, industry, non-governmental organizations, and communities to develop policies and programs to reduce air pollution; and

WHEREAS, reducing greenhouse gases has a direct co-benefit of lessening harmful air pollutants that can cause diseases such as cancer and asthma; and

WHEREAS, the District is directly working to assess, plan, mitigate, and ultimately reduce air pollution as called for by Federal and State legislation and in partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2021, the County of San Diego (County) Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Administrative Officer to develop a framework for a regional carbon sustainability plan in partnership with the University of California San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy (UC San Diego GPS), which shall include strategies and initiatives to achieve carbon neutrality in the region by 2035; and

WHEREAS, regional collaboration is essential to develop policies and programs to achieve a balance between anthropogenically generated greenhouse gas emissions (primarily carbon dioxide) with the removal of emissions via carbon sinks or through the elimination of emissions by certain sources altogether; and

WHEREAS, a regional framework for a carbon sustainability plan will support alignment of multiple climate action plans created by agencies throughout the region and may serve to advance interconnected strategies that collectively help the region achieve its climate action planning goals, all of which will have the co-benefit of reducing air pollution; and

WHEREAS, the District and County are working to collaborate and build regional support for land use, transportation, and environmental issues for the betterment of the region; and

WHEREAS, in addition to improving air quality, public health and the environment, rapidly reducing greenhouse gas emissions, climate strategies, initiatives, and investments to be included the County's regional carbon sustainability plan will have a high potential to provide other substantial co-benefits, including, reducing the burden of transportation costs on working families, increasing the dynamism of our regional economy, and providing San Diegans with thousands of well-paying jobs building the infrastructure that will propel our region into the future.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District Governing Board hereby supports development of a framework for regional carbon sustainability plan and directs the Interim Air Pollution Control Officer and/or their designated representative(s) to collaborate with the County and other entities on the framework, as a means for the San Diego region to improve air quality along with combating global climate change.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
Rodney Lorang, Senior Deputy County Counsel