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INTRODUCTION

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Planning For a Changing Climate

The County of San Diego (County) Climate Action Plan (CAP) sets forth strategies and measures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the county's unincorporated areas and from County operations. The CAP is structured to meet State mandates to further the General Plan's vision and guiding principles, and is informed by community input. The CAP is tailored to address the opportunities and constraints that arise from the county's expansive and diverse landscape with its open spaces, rural heritage, and unique communities. The CAP builds upon the General Plan and other efforts to reduce GHGs; promote health, sustainability, and environmental stewardship; and reinforce the vitality, local economy, and individual character of existing communities. In addition to specific subject-oriented measures, it proposes a direct investment strategy that would allow GHG emissions to be offset through funding other projects; providing an adaptive management tool; and serving as an incentive for flexible and cost-effective solutions.

While the CAP uses the best information, research, and techniques available today, technologies and markets are constantly changing. Strategies identified in the CAP may change based on new technologies that are brought to market or become feasible. New federal and State laws may be passed that achieve broad-based emission reductions and shift local governments' emission reduction targets or change the effectiveness of reduction measures. For these reasons, the CAP must be closely monitored, adjusted, and managed to ensure it is thoughtfully, cost-effectively, and successfully implemented over the long term.

State Initiatives

California has a prominent role within the U.S. in taking action to reduce GHG emissions and improve preparedness related to sea-level rise, wildfires, water supply, and other risks. Starting more than a decade ago with a 2005 Executive Order (EO), that was later codified in the Global Warming Solutions Acts of 2006 (Assembly Bill [AB] 32) and 2016 (Senate Bill [SB] 32), the State has continued to expand its legislative framework to address these issues. This framework includes additional complementary legislation that addresses specific sectors such as land use, transportation, energy, and water, as well as environmental justice and public health issues. California's commitment to reduce GHG emissions and improve climate resiliency extends responsibilities to local governments, opens new markets, and establishes climate planning as a core consideration for business practices. Key actions, summarized in this section, provide important policy direction and context for the CAP.

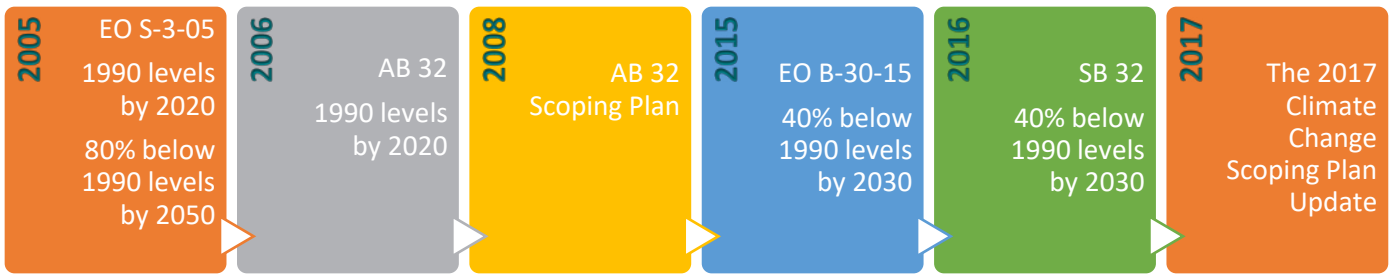

Figure 1.1 State GHG Reduction Framework

Figure 1.1 illustrates the major legislative, administrative, and regulatory actions that form the framework for reducing GHG emissions in California. This consists of EOs, legislative bills, and agency planning efforts. The figure demonstrates two separate, but related, phases that have established statewide 2020 and 2030 GHG reductions targets. In each phase, EOs set targets that were later fixed in law – AB 32 set the 2020 target and SB 32 set the 2030 target. Once the targets were adopted as law, the State created the long-term roadmap for achieving each target, also known as the Scoping Plan. *California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan* (Scoping Plan Update) was adopted by the California Air Resources Board on December 14, 2017. The Scoping Plan Update contains the strategies and measures that will be necessary to meet the 2030 statewide GHG reduction target. Achieving 2020 and 2030 targets is necessary to ensure that the long-term 2050 goal can be met.

Table 1.1 focuses on additional State legislation and regulations that have the most direct influence on the emissions sectors included in the CAP.

The California Air Resources Board recognizes local governments as "essential partners" in achieving California's

Table 1.1 Relevant State Legislation

Regulation/Legislation	Title/Issue	Description
SB 375	Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008	Requires regional targets for GHG reductions from passenger vehicles through better land use and transportation planning and a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)
SB 350	Clean Energy and Population Reduction Act	Sets 2030 targets for increasing the state renewable energy mix to 50%, doubling of energy efficiency in existing buildings, and a modernized electric grid
EO S-01-07	Low Carbon Fuel Standard	Establishes a target to reduce the amount of carbon in transportation fuels by 10% by 2020
Advanced Clean Cars Program	Passenger Vehicle GHG Emissions	Sets emission standards for vehicles and targets for deployment of zero-emissions vehicles
SB 1000	Incorporation of Environmental Justice into Local Plans	Requires cities and counties to include a section on environmental justice when they update their general plans
SB 535 and AB 1550	Prioritizing Investments in Disadvantaged and Low-Income Communities	Requires the identification of disadvantaged and low-income communities throughout the state and sets minimum targets for overall investments from the State Cap-and-Trade Program
SB 379	Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Planning	Requires cities and counties to incorporate climate adaptation and resiliency into core local planning documents and processes
SB 97	California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 2007 Amendments	Amendments for the feasible reduction of GHG emissions or the effects of emissions along with additional guidance

goals to reduce GHG emissions. Local governments can implement climate strategies to address local conditions and issues, and engage residents more effectively than the State. Local governments have broad jurisdiction and, in some cases, unique authorities, through community-scale planning and permitting processes, discretionary actions, local codes and ordinances, outreach and education efforts, and government operations. The California Air Resources Board contends that local government efforts are critical to support the State's efforts to reduce emissions and can ultimately deliver additional emissions reductions beyond what State policy can, along with local economic benefits (CARB 2017).

Local actions cannot be addressed by one agency or community, but require active and ongoing partnerships among residents, businesses, the County, and other agencies and organizations in the region. By planning and engaging in more sustainable practices, communities will be able to respond to future risks and changes. The CAP serves as another resource to support long-term sustainability efforts.

Regional Programs and Coordination

The San Diego region has been actively engaged in climate planning at the regional and local level. The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), as the region's transportation planning agency and conduit for federal and State transportation funding, plays a key role in planning and implementing mobility facilities and services, and achieving GHG emissions reductions associated with passenger vehicle use. The County, together with other local governments and public agencies, is working collaboratively with local nonprofits, universities, and businesses to prepare plans and implement programs that complement State efforts. More than half of the jurisdictions in the region have prepared or are developing a CAP. In addition, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, the San Diego County Water Authority, and the San Diego Unified Port District have adopted CAPs for their operations. Local universities have also made commitments to reduce their emissions.

This CAP is applicable to emissions generated within the unincorporated areas that are under the County's land use jurisdiction, and from County government operations. A summary of regional efforts to promote emissions reductions and support broader community health goals is provided in Table 1.2. Some of these programs are referenced within the local reduction measures presented in Chapter 3. Through collaboration and coordination, others may provide the funding or knowledge-sharing framework that will support future long-range emissions reduction efforts within the unincorporated county.

Table 1.2 - Relevant Regional Effort

Agency	Program	Description
SANDAG	San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan	The Plan integrates the Regional Transportation Plan and SCS, and the Regional Comprehensive Plan into one document to chart the region's future growth and transportation investments through 2050. Pursuant to SB 375, the SCS demonstrates how the region will reduce GHG emissions generated through vehicle miles traveled (VMT) (from passenger vehicles and light-duty trucks). The Regional Plan reduces GHG emissions by 15% per capita, by 2020, and 21% per capita, by 2035, compared with a 2005 baseline.
SANDAG in partnership with San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)	Energy Roadmap Program and Local Government Partnerships	SANDAG provides local governments with "Energy Roadmaps" (management plans) that identify ways to save energy in municipal operations and the community, resulting in cost savings and environmental benefits. The Energy Roadmap Program is a collaboration between SANDAG and SDG&E. The County, along with the City of San Diego, and Chula Vista have individual local government partnership agreements with SDG&E and are not participants in the Roadmap Program.
SANDAG	Regional Plug-In Electric Vehicle (PEV) Readiness Plan	The plan is part of a statewide effort to prepare local governments for the deployment of PEV. The San Diego PEV Readiness Plan identifies barriers to the deployment of PEV charging infrastructure and includes recommendations and resources for public agencies, property owners, consumers, and other stakeholders to overcome those barriers.
San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative	Manages projects supporting leadership on climate action planning to ensure a vibrant economy, healthy environment and resilient communities in the San Diego region	The San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative is a network for public agencies to share expertise, leverage resources, and advance comprehensive solutions to facilitate climate change planning. The Collaborative partners with academia, non-profits, and businesses to support regional leadership and develop effective strategies. The County is a founding member and participates on the steering committee.
Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE)	San Diego Regional Energy Partnership (SDREP)	CSE manages projects on behalf of the SDREP, which includes the County, City of San Diego, City of Chula Vista, SANDAG, Port of San Diego and SDG&E. SDREP has created several resources for local stakeholders looking to advance the local market for energy efficient buildings.
The San Diego Foundation	The Foundation is a charitable nonprofit organization that supports climate planning efforts.	Since 2006, the San Diego Foundation has invested more than $3.5 million in the creation of cross-sector partnerships, assessment of regional vulnerabilities, and priorities to address climate change, and increased public understanding of local impacts of climate change with policy makers, scientific experts, businesses, and other community leaders.

County Context

The unincorporated portion of the county is located in the southwestern corner of California and encompasses approximately 2.3 million acres, or 3,570 square miles with a 2014 population of 454,599. A majority of the unincorporated county's land, in excess of 90%, is open space or undeveloped. This includes several large federal, state, and regional parklands that encompass much of the eastern portion of the county. Tribal lands comprise 5.7 percent of the land area. Only 35%, or about 807,000 acres of the unincorporated county, is privately owned. According to the General Plan, approximately 5.6 percent of the unincorporated county, or 128,369 acres, was private undeveloped land with potential for future development in Village, Semi-Rural, Commercial, or Industrial areas.

The San Diego region is recognized as one of the most biologically important areas in the U.S., and one of the most biologically diverse areas in the world.

The San Diego region is one of the most biodiverse regions in the world.

The species diversity found in the region can be attributed to the wide variety of vegetation and habitats associated with the region's range of microclimates, topography, soils, and other natural features. Unincorporated lands are comprised of natural features that include lagoons, foothills, mountain ranges, and deserts. The San Diego region supports over 400 sensitive plants and animals, ranging in sensitivity from common to critically endangered. This diversity is part of the San Diego region's unique natural heritage and a legacy to be protected for future generations.

The county is consistently ranked among the top twelve agricultural counties in California. It has the fourth highest number of farms of any county in the country and third highest number of farms of any county in California. Agriculture is the fifth largest component of the county's economy. Agriculture provides an array of economic, environmental, and social benefits that contribute to the quality of life in the region.

The unincorporated area is home to 26 distinct communities that vary in land use and density. In general, the communities include a core of local-serving commercial uses, services, schools, and public facilities surrounded by residential neighborhoods. They vary from semi-suburban residential neighborhoods that transition in scale and density from adjoining incorporated cities, to low-density rural communities surrounded by hillsides, deserts, and agricultural lands. The most developed communities are located along the unincorporated territory's westernmost boundaries and include the community plan areas of Spring Valley, Sweetwater, Valle de Oro, Lakeside, San Dieguito, portions of North County Metro, and Fallbrook. These areas have access to water, sewer, roads, schools, and other public facilities.

Planning for Growth, Conservation, and Sustainability

The General Plan celebrates the region's spectacular natural setting, and balances goals for growth, conservation, and sustainability. The General Plan is based on guiding principles designed to support a reasonable share of projected regional population growth, protect the county's natural resources, and maintain the character of its communities.

The General Plan, updated in 2011, shifts growth capacity from the eastern backcountry areas to western communities. It encourages growth to occur in villages with "compact land development patterns to minimize intrusion into agricultural lands and open spaces; reduce travel distances to local services and businesses, while also inducing community association, activity, and walking."

This approach "reflects the County's commitment to a sustainable growth model that facilitates efficient development near infrastructure and services, while respecting sensitive natural resources and protecting of existing community character." A major component to guiding the physical planning of the county is the Community Development Model that "directs the highest intensities and greatest mix of uses to Village areas, while directing lower-intensity uses, such as estate-style residential lots and agricultural operations, to Semi-Rural areas. The Semi-Rural category may effectively serve as an edge to the Village, as well as a transition to the lowest-density category, Rural Lands, which represents large open space areas where only limited development may occur."

The General Plan also includes specific goals and policies aimed at reducing GHG emissions by growing in a compact and efficient manner, using energy more efficiently, harnessing renewable energy to power buildings, improving waste recycling, and improving access to sustainable transportation. Both individually and collectively, these measures are intended to reduce the cost of living, maintain or improve overall quality of life, and help the county's unincorporated communities thrive.

Because of the county's size and diversity, the General Plan calls for community plans to address the critical issues that are unique to each community, and to provide more precise guidance regarding desired land use, densities, and character than the broader policies of the General Plan. When updating community plans, "communities are encouraged to delineate areas within their plans that will assist with the future planning of developments, infrastructure, facilities, and regulations. An Urban Limit Line and/or Village Boundary may be defined in the Community Plan as a community-specific growth boundary that identifies an area to which development should be directed. These boundaries may also serve as the basis for community specific goals and policies." Community plan updates guide village development, identify walking and biking system improvements, address public facilities needs, and provide design guidelines and tailored policies that will help realize the CAP's GHG emission reduction targets.

County Sustainability Plans and Programs

Over the last decade, the County has taken several steps to address sustainability and reductions in GHG emissions. Since 2005, the County has been involved in various efforts to quantify GHG emissions sources and formulate reduction strategies on both a county and larger regional level. This CAP builds upon these past efforts by creating a GHG inventory for 2014 and forecasting emissions for 2020, 2030, and 2050.

Other notable County efforts include:

***Live Well San Diego*:** *Live Well San Diego* is the County's vision for a region that is Building Better Health, Living Safely, and Thriving. It aligns the efforts of individuals, organizations, and government to help all 3.3 million county residents live well and bring about positive change for the greater good.

***Live Well San Diego* Food System Initiative:** The *Live Well San Diego* Food System Initiative works to support a robust and resilient local food system that builds healthy communities, supports the economy, and enhances the environment. In collaboration with many organizations in the region, including businesses and non-profits, the initiative focuses on four priority areas:

- Working with stakeholders to create a biennial *State of the Food System in San Diego County Report* to identify and track comprehensive metrics for progress in improving the food system countywide.
- Collaborate with local food system stakeholders to increase food donation to help address food insecurity countywide and reduce food waste.
- Provide technical assistance for small-to-medium sized markets to offer access to affordable, healthful, local, and culturally desirable food items in underserved neighborhoods.
- Implement Eat Well Practices to expand healthy and sustainable food and beverage options offered by the County.

Comprehensive Renewable Energy Plan (CREP) Phase One Report: The Phase One Report presents options to increase renewable energy use. The report provides a thorough assessment of best management practices and considers the costs and benefits of implementation, and overall return on investment. The County of San Diego Board of Supervisors (Board) has identified seven Phase One recommendations for the County to consider as part of a long-range strategic renewable energy plan. CREP recommendations do not directly translate into emissions reductions, but were used to develop the CAP's renewable and energy efficiency measures.

General Plan: The General Plan balances population growth and development with infrastructure needs and resource protection. The General Plan is based on smart growth and land planning principles that will reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and conserve open space lands.

Purchase of Agriculture Conservation Easement (PACE) Program: The PACE Program promotes the long-term preservation of agriculture in the county. Under the PACE Program, willing agricultural property owners are compensated for placing an easement on their agricultural property that limits future uses and removes future development potential. As a result, the agricultural land is preserved and the property owner receives compensation that can make its continued use for agriculture more viable.

Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP): The MSCP Program is designed to establish connected preserve systems that ensure the long-term survival of sensitive plant and animal species and protects the native vegetation found throughout the county. Plans created under this program are both a federal Habitat Conservation Plan and a State Natural Community Conservation Planning program plan. The General Plan acknowledges that the MSCP is "an important program that significantly contributes to the County's ability to realize its watershed protection and climate change goals."

Strategic Plan to Reduce Waste: The Strategic Plan to Reduce Waste contains over 15 individual programs and initiatives that focus on different waste types and sources, such as reducing food and other organic waste generated from residential and commercial uses.

Strategic Energy Plan (SEP): The SEP ensures that sustainability practices are integrated into the County's operations and minimize utility (water and energy) consumption and costs. This strategy applies to County-owned and leased facilities and vehicles. The SEP includes a community component to encourage residents to reduce energy and water consumption through outreach and education.

GHG Emission Categories, Strategies, and Measures

The CAP is organized to address five primary GHG emission categories:

Built Environment and Transportation: Focus growth in the county villages by updating community plans for the community planning areas that include villages. Built environment measures also include acquiring and preserving land for conservation and agricultural purposes to reduce GHG emissions from land that can otherwise be developed. Transportation measures aim to reduce emissions through context sensitive, multi-modal planning in each community to: reduce vehicle trips through "Complete Streets" improvements that encourage pedestrian and cycling trips, foster the use of electric and alternative fuel vehicles, manage existing infrastructure more efficiently, and reduce the number and length of trips through improved access and connectivity.

Energy: Achieve greater building energy efficiencies for new construction and rehabilitation of existing structures, transition away from tank-based natural gas-fueled water heaters, require energy audits, and increase renewable energy use.

Solid Waste: Implement the County's Strategic Plan to Reduce Waste by expansion of County waste reduction, recycling, and composting programs; and increase participation from residents and businesses to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste.

Water and Wastewater: Conserve water to become more resilient to drought conditions, and improve water quality. This includes installation of water-efficient appliances and plumbing fixtures in all new residential construction, reduction in outdoor water use for landscaping in new and existing residential and non-residential development, rain barrel installations, and participating in regional efforts to explore options for potable water.

Agriculture and Conservation: Reduce emissions from agricultural equipment, increase carbon sequestration, and promote sustainable and locally grown food.

For each category, strategies, measures, and supporting efforts are identified.

Strategies describe the overall approach and expected results to be achieved, and are linked to General Plan policies.

Measures are specific programs and actions that the County would carry out to achieve its climate action strategies. Measures are achievable, enforceable, and measurable. For each measure:

- Estimated GHG reductions resulting from each measure are quantified and are key to assessing the success of the CAP.
- Community/public co-benefits show the complementary impact that would result from each measure and are not required to meet the County's reduction targets and goal.
- Cost estimates, as available, are included to provide a low, medium or high estimate of costs.
- The time frame is provided to identify if the measure is anticipated to be implemented in the near-, medium- or long-term.

Supporting efforts are additional actions that help reduce GHGs, that are not currently quantifiable due to data limitations or lack of an available method to measure results. However, over time, implementation of supporting efforts is expected to result in efficiencies that will be captured in future inventory updates.

The CAP also includes an innovative "direct investment" measure that can benefit all emission categories. Direct investments in local projects, such as weatherization, can cost-effectively reduce carbon emissions within the county while also reducing residents' heating and cooling expenses. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District will establish a Local Direct Investment Program by 2020 through which the County can register and retire the carbon credits generated by local projects. This measure offers a flexible, responsive (adaptive management) tool to meet targets, maximize cost-effectiveness, and achieve co-benefits. It fosters creative and effective solutions to GHG reductions, and has the potential to achieve greater GHG results per dollar spent. Property and business owners can also take advantage of the registry by retiring or selling mitigation credits on the market.

Environmental, Economic, and Community Co-Benefits

The CAP helps implement the General Plan's broad vision as well as its GHG-specific policies. While the measures included in the CAP are focused on reducing GHG emissions, each will also result in secondary, or additional, co-benefits such as improved air quality, green economy job growth, increased mobility options, and reduced household transportation costs. These benefits help achieve broader goals for a healthy environment, social equity and well-being, and a strong economy that are aligned with County's initiatives as described in this chapter.

Environmental benefits include improved air quality, water supplies, and biological resources. Public health benefits are typically closely related to environmental co-benefits, and certain adaptation strategies, such as preparedness for extreme heat events. Consequently, the CAP supports implementation of the County's *Live Well San Diego* vision for "Building Better Health, Living Safely and Thriving."

Many of the measures will also have direct and indirect economic benefits. Measures that focus on improving energy- and water-use efficiency in new and existing buildings have the potential to lower operation costs for residents and businesses. Reduced energy and water costs may lead residents and businesses to invest and spend more in the local economy. Progressive building design and construction practices, including achieving energy efficiency in buildings and installing renewable energy systems, will reduce the demand for imported energy. Additionally, local clean energy projects such as residential solar installations, utility scale solar and wind farms, and electric vehicle charging stations result in more local investment, more local jobs, and more money circulating and recirculating in the local economy.

Similarly, reinvestment in local buildings, public facilities, parks and infrastructure will provide new opportunities for skilled trades and professional services, while creating complete communities. The methods and tools include public/private partnerships and hands-on training, and offer a potential opportunity for the business and labor community to work together to build a green economy.

The CAP also supports developing transportation alternatives to help reduce GHG emissions including: fostering transportation demand management strategies to make more efficient use of existing infrastructure; improving public transit options, including new park and

ride facilities that connect to the larger regional transit network; and increasing access to major employment centers. Walking and biking in village and community centers will reduce VMT while creating opportunities for healthy lifestyles.

As centers and villages grow with more residents, jobs, and services, they will increasingly be focal points for achieving sustainability, economic development, and public health goals. Providing options that allow people to drive less, save money, and have more free time are important co-benefits that are expected to result from many of the strategies and measures in the CAP. While some solutions have broad applicability across the region, most must be tailored to local county conditions. For example, transit-based commuting strategies may achieve success in more urban parts of the region, but their effectiveness may be limited in the unincorporated county.

The direct benefits and co-benefits that are expected to result from implementing the CAP will have positive impacts on social equity and environmental justice. There are broad and different definitions of these two terms, but they can be generally defined as living in a healthy environment and having access to economic, social, and cultural opportunities.

The CAP is in alignment with several key pieces of State social equity and environmental justice legislation that are described in Table 1.1: SB 1000, SB 535, and AB 1550. Senate Bill 1000, requires local governments to identify "disadvantaged communities" within their boundaries and establish policies to improve conditions in them as part of future general plan updates. The State has defined these communities based on characteristics such as their exposure to pollution, population characteristics including low education and income levels, and access to transportation among others.

The other two pieces of legislation, SB 535 and AB 1550, require the State to prioritize a portion of funding to reduce GHGs from its statewide Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for investment in the defined disadvantaged and low-income communities. The unincorporated county includes some identified low-income communities that could qualify for priority funding, as outlined in Chapter 5. The County could apply for this funding in order to help fund the implementation of measures in these particular communities that face these challenges.

An underlying premise of the County General Plan is to conserve natural resources and develop lands and infrastructure for a more sustainable future. Planning and developing a sustainable future depends on a healthy environment, strong economy, and the social well-being of the county's residents. Throughout the General Plan are goals and policies that contribute to the following:

Environment: conserving air, water, land, soils, minerals, natural habitat, energy, and aesthetic resources; while protecting life and property from the risks of wildfires, flooding, and other hazards;

Economy: creating good jobs, income, and financial resources; and

Equity and Social Well-Being: providing library, park and recreation facilities, along with programs that contribute to improvements in education, income, health, safety, arts, and cultural attainment for all.

CAP-Related Actions

The following actions are being taken in connection with the CAP. Details on the proposed actions can be found in Chapter 1 of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR). In addition to analyzing the impacts from CAP strategies and measures, the SEIR also evaluates proposed amendments to General Plan Goal COS-20 and Policy COS-20.1, and Mitigation Measures CC-1.2, CC-1.7, and CC-1.8 of the 2011 General Plan Update (2011 GPU) Program Environmental Impact Report. These changes would require a General Plan Amendment to the 2011 General Plan Update. In addition, the County has prepared *Guidelines for Determining Significance for Climate Change* including the adoption of a GHG Threshold, and Report Format and Content Requirements.

CAP Implementation and Monitoring

Meeting State targets represents a challenge that will require significant County investments, long-term commitment, and the widespread participation of the region's residents and business owners. Implementation will be dependent on the County adopting future implementation ordinances, policies, and programs. A cost/benefit analysis is being prepared, which will inform decisions on individual implementation measures. Meeting reduction targets will require Board actions and continued collaboration among all levels of government, as well as the private, non-profit, and educational sectors. The CAP is a long-term program and is expected to be modified, or adaptively managed, as specific actions and circumstances change over time. For example, improvements in energy technology and efficiency, transportation technology and fuels, building standards, consumer behavior, implementation costs, and future federal and State regulations may warrant revisiting measures. Advancements in battery technology may increase market demand for electric vehicles and rooftop solar systems, and deployment of autonomous vehicles may alter how people travel and spend their transportation dollars. From a governance perspective, if the State continues to adopt legislation and regulations that lead to broad-based reduced GHG emissions, local responsibilities for targeted measures may shift.

CEQA Streamlining

The California Environmental Quality Act is a statute that requires local agencies to identify significant environmental impacts of their actions and avoid or mitigate those impacts, if feasible. In 2007, California's lawmakers enacted SB 97, which expressly recognizes the need to analyze GHG emissions as part of the CEQA process. SB 97 required the Governor's Office of Planning and Research to develop recommended amendments to address GHG emissions as an environmental effect. In response to the mandate of SB 97, the CEQA Guidelines (Section 15183.5) establish standards for the contents and approval process of plans to reduce GHGs.

This CAP has been prepared consistent with those standards. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5-qualified plan, the CAP affords development applicants the opportunity to use CEQA streamlining tools for analysis of GHG emissions and related impacts for projects that are consistent with the CAP. Details on how projects can achieve consistency with the CAP are provided in a separate *Guidelines for Determining Significance for Climate Change* document.

Looking Ahead

The CAP is a detailed plan for the County to achieve its long-term goals for reducing GHG emissions. It includes strategies, measures, and supporting efforts that achieve Triple Bottom Line objectives to benefit the environment, economy, and community. The CAP demonstrates how the County will achieve GHG emissions targets for 2020 and 2030, and demonstrate progress to 2050. The CAP also includes measures to improve the county's resilience to potential environmental risks and hazards over the long term. Successful implementation will require long-term commitment and ongoing collaboration with private and public sector partners, as well as the community-at-large. Through diligent monitoring, flexible management, and periodic updates, the CAP will remain an effective tool to reduce emissions and help implement the County's vision for the future.

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