

# Spring Valley Community Meeting

## San Diego County Climate Action Plan Update



*Built Environment*



*Energy*



*Solid Waste*



*Water &  
Wastewater*



*Agriculture &  
Conservation*

### Introduction

As part of the public involvement process for the **Climate Action Plan Update** (CAP Update), the County of San Diego (County) is conducting intentional engagement with Environmental Justice Communities (EJCs)<sup>1</sup> to gather input and recommendations for the CAP Update.

Wednesday, January 26, 2022  
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Zoom

On January 26, 2022, the County hosted a meeting for the Spring Valley community which drew 16 participants. The meeting was the second in a series of meetings with community members in the County's EJCs. County staff worked with County departments and partners to share promotional flyers, and staff called and emailed stakeholders in the community, including residents, businesses, and community-based organizations to promote the event. This summary documents the meeting objectives and format, how input was solicited, and what was learned from the participants.

### Objectives

The meeting was organized and conducted to accomplish the following objectives:

- Create a comfortable, engaging environment where all participants have an opportunity to provide meaningful input.
- Promote dialogue and build connections with stakeholders to explore climate change in their community.
- Obtain input, with a focus on the Spring Valley community, to help develop the CAP Update and identify community concerns and ideas.
- Provide an overview of the CAP Update in a clear and easy to understand way, including the purpose, process, outcomes, timeline, and future opportunities to provide input.
- Explore opportunities and challenges related to greenhouse gas reduction measures that may be considered for the CAP Update.

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<sup>1</sup>Environmental Justice Communities are designated and defined in the San Diego County's [Environmental Justice Element](#).

## **Format**

At the virtual meeting, community members participated in a staff-led presentation, polls, and a breakout session. The workshop was centered around a series of five topics, Welcome & Orientation; Tell Us About Your Community; Climate Change in San Diego County; What is the Climate Action Plan?; and What would work in your community? Throughout the workshop, community members were invited to share their perspectives through the chat, polls, and open discussion. The workshop and prompts were designed so that staff could learn more about the Spring Valley community and provided an opportunity to hear community members' perspectives about climate change and potential actions to reduce greenhouse gases.

An interpreter was in attendance for community members whose primary language is Spanish. The meeting materials were also offered in Spanish.

## **Major Themes**

Major themes common to all the input received from participants are listed below. The ordering does not reflect importance or frequency.

- Several participants shared that education on sustainability related topics such as solar energy, composting, and conversion of gas equipment to electric are among their top priorities. Additionally, local examples of sustainability are crucial, for example, local community gardens with composting or local and trusted sources for solar energy and installation.
- Many participants emphasized the importance of improved transportation: from bike and pedestrian safety to enhancements in public transportation and incentives for electric vehicles.
- Multiple participants identified climate change impacts affecting their community, including increased flooding events and heat waves and their respective impacts, such as dying vegetation and utility strains.
- Some participants identified potential ideas for the Climate Action Plan Update, including improved multi-modal options, renewable energy options, and “smart” street lighting.
- Strategies related to solid waste, water and wastewater, and agriculture and conservation were all identified as potential solutions to address climate change in Spring Valley. Several participants expressed interest in waste to energy, composting, greywater systems, and native landscapes.