



# Tell Us About Your Community

What makes your community special?

What are the needs of your community?

What is your community working on?





# What is Climate Change?



Climate change refers to long-term change in average weather patterns for the Earth's local, regional, and global climates. There are many effects that result from these changes including increases in the frequency and severity of extreme events like heatwaves and wildfires. Climate change is primarily caused by human activities, especially the burning of fossil

fuels like oil, natural gas, and coal, but also from industrial processes, agricultural and land management practices, and solid waste disposal. These activities increase the amount of heat-trapping greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the Earth's atmosphere, which increases Earth's global average temperature and causes climate change.

The County has **5** primary sources of emissions:



## **Built Environment & Transportation:**

how communities are built and how people and goods move around them.



## **Water & Wastewater:**

the process of pulling water from its source, treating it, using it, and discarding it.



## **Energy:**

electricity and natural gas used to power homes and businesses.



## **Agriculture & Conservation:**

farming practices and equipment, management of open space, and converting open space to developed uses.



## **Solid Waste:**

organic waste that is thrown away and transported to a landfill.





# Climate Change Impacts in the County of San Diego

Climate change is expected to lead to increasing temperatures and more variation in precipitation (drier dry years and wetter wet years). Over time, climate change will intensify the environmental hazards already being experienced in the County of San Diego. This includes:

**Climate change will affect everyone differently, and some areas and populations are more vulnerable to these impacts.**

## Impacts

- ▶ Drought and depleted water supply
- ▶ Extreme heat events
- ▶ Extreme rain and flooding
- ▶ Landslides
- ▶ Wildfires
- ▶ Sea-level rise
- ▶ Human health hazards (e.g., asthma or other respiratory illness, heat related illness, malnutrition from poor water or food quality)





# Climate Change and YOU

How are you experiencing climate change?

What concerns you about climate change?

Do you see climate change impacts in your community?





# About the Climate Action Plan Update

- ▶ **Purpose** is to identify specific actions that the County will undertake to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- ▶ **Goal** is to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2035–2045.
- ▶ **Environmental benefits** include cleaner air, efficient water use, and a healthier place to work, play, and live.
- ▶ **Economic benefits** include long term cost savings, new technology, more jobs, and economic growth.

## Prepared Using: \_\_\_\_\_

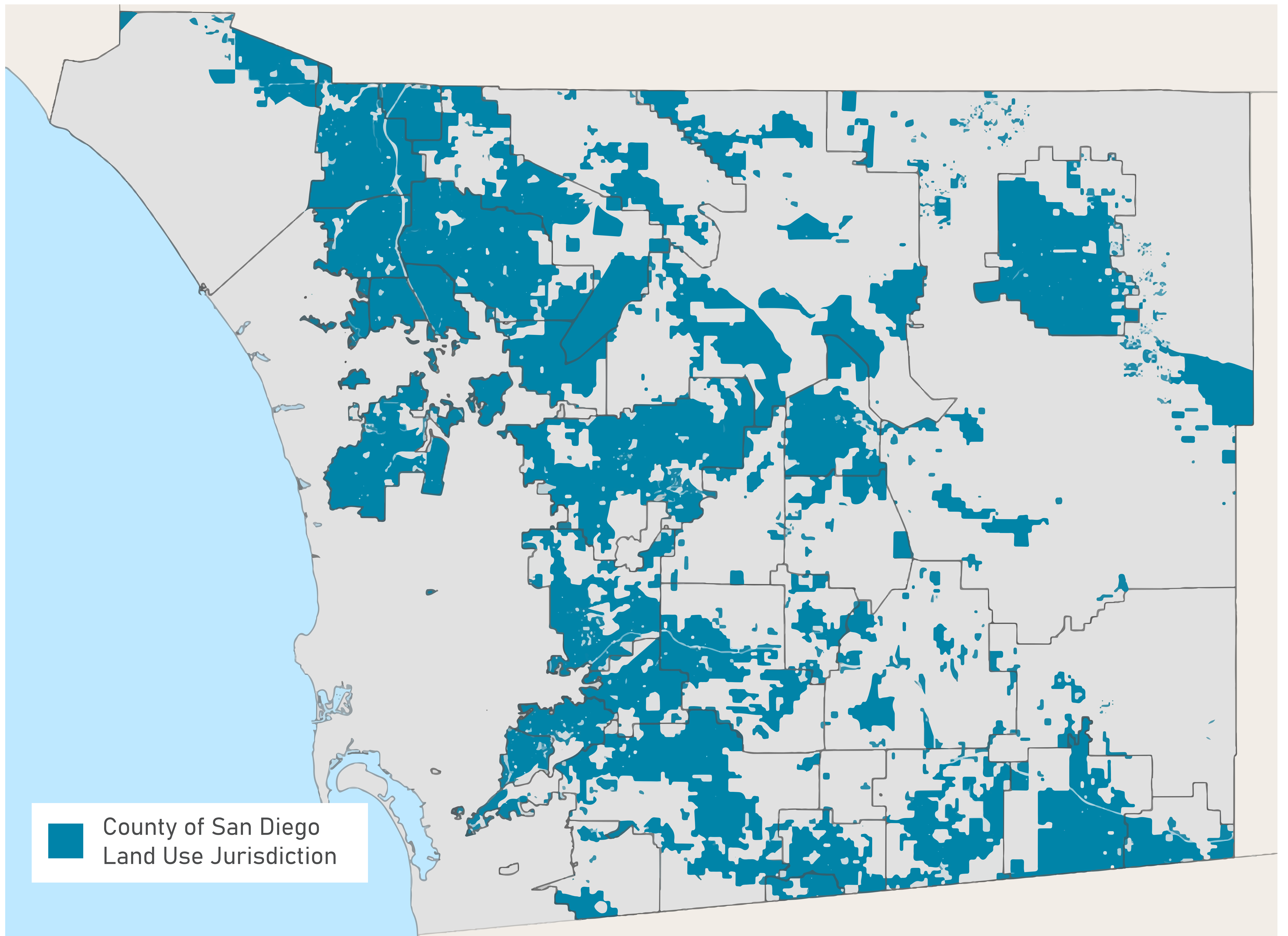
- ▶ **Technical data and research** to understand the sources of GHG emissions.
- ▶ **Best-practices** for improving the environment.
- ▶ **Input** from community members.





# County of San Diego's Climate Action Plan Update

The Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update addresses greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that are within the County's authority to regulate and influence, including GHG emissions generated in the unincorporated areas of the county and those associated with operating County facilities.



San Diego County is very large but includes a lot of federal, state, and tribal lands that the County does not have land use jurisdiction over.





# Next Steps for the Climate Action Plan Update

## Project Timeline



## How to Get Involved

There are multiple ways to be involved in the Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update and share your feedback with the County:

- 1. Sign up** for project updates here:  [qrco.de/bcU2qj](https://qrco.de/bcU2qj)
- 2. Attend** a virtual or in-person meeting – details will be shared via project updates
- 3. Check out** our webpage: [bit.ly/CAP\\_Update](https://bit.ly/CAP_Update)
- 4. Email us:** [CAP@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:CAP@sdcounty.ca.gov)
- 5. Follow** on social media:



Twitter:  
[@SDCoSustainable](https://twitter.com/SDCoSustainable)



Facebook:  
[@SDCountySustainable](https://www.facebook.com/SDCountySustainable)





# BUILT ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORTATION

The movement of people and goods to and from unincorporated communities accounts for the largest proportion of the County's GHG emissions. These emissions come primarily from the burning of gasoline and diesel in cars, SUVs, motorcycles, and trucks.

For more  
information,  
visit:



<https://qrco.de/bcTSog>

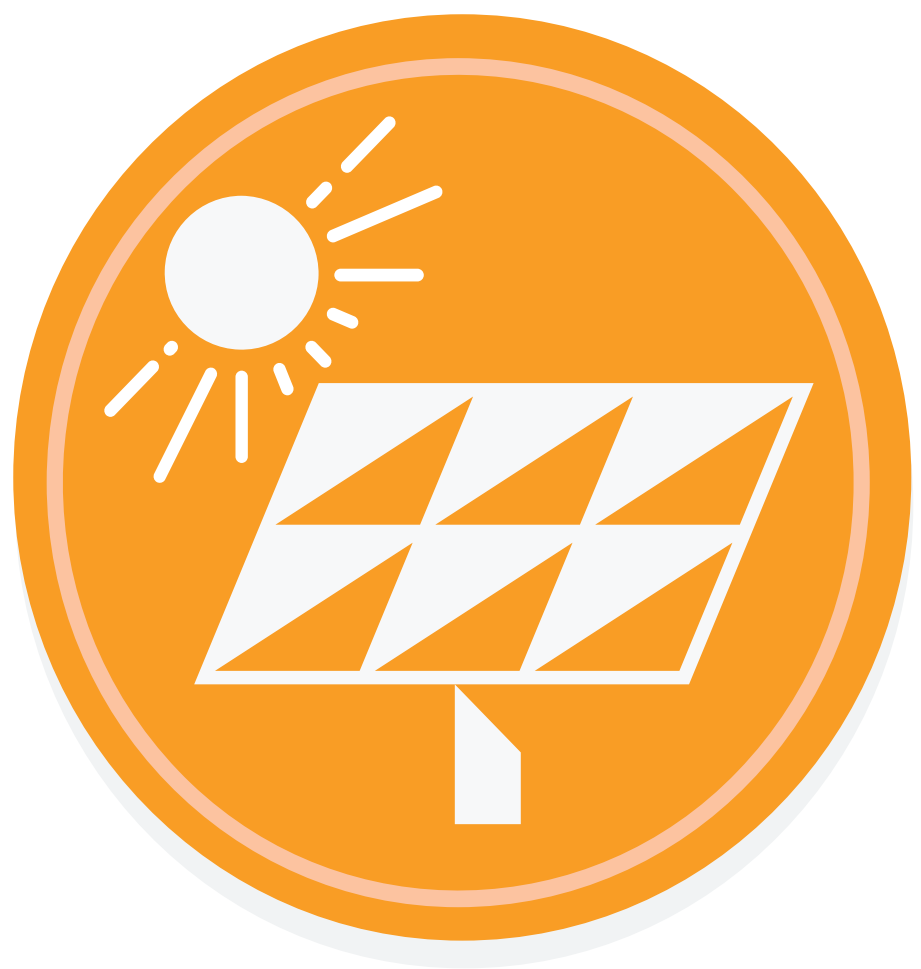
## Potential Strategies

1. Using electric or other zero emissions vehicles instead of gasoline or diesel-powered cars, SUVs, motorcycles, or trucks
2. Installing publicly-available electric vehicle charging stations
3. Walking and biking instead of driving
4. Using fixed-route public transit services like the bus or Trolley instead of driving
5. Using on-demand microtransit services like multi-passenger shuttles instead of driving
6. Using micromobility options like electric bikes and scooters instead of driving
7. Using on-demand ridehailing services like Uber or Lyft instead of driving
8. Working or performing errands virtually from home instead of driving

## Feedback + Other Ideas and Strategies

- ▶ What other ideas and strategies do you think would work in your community?
- ▶ Are there any ideas and strategies that might not work well?
- ▶ **Consider Equity:**  
How can ideas and strategies avoid unintended harm and/or benefit everyone?





# ENERGY

Using energy in homes, businesses, and other buildings for things like lighting, space and water heating, cooling, appliances, and cooking accounts for the second largest proportion of the County's GHG emissions. These emissions come primarily from the burning of natural gas to generate electricity, and end uses of natural gas and propane like cooking and space and water heating.

For more  
information,  
visit:



<https://qrco.de/bcTSpd>

## Potential Strategies

1. Powering new buildings without natural gas or propane
2. Providing on-site power for new buildings, like rooftop solar panels and battery storage systems
3. Replacing natural gas appliances with electric-powered versions
4. Replacing natural gas with other zero emissions fuels
5. Retrofitting existing buildings to use less energy
6. Providing existing buildings with on-site power, like rooftop solar panels and battery storage systems
7. Providing residents and businesses with off-site electricity generated from zero emission sources like solar or wind power instead of fossil fuels

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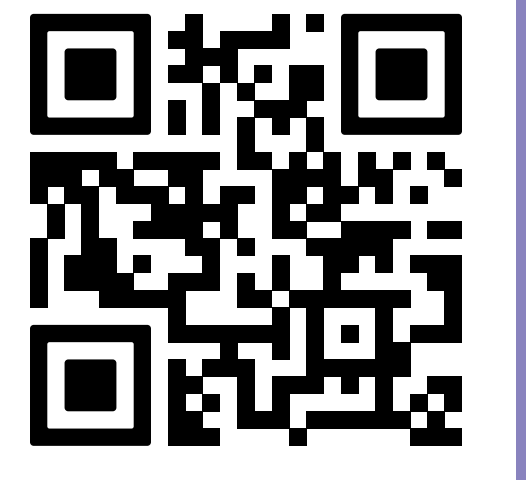




# SOLID WASTE

Disposing of solid waste in landfills is another source of the County's GHG emissions. These emissions come primarily from the release of methane when organic material in the waste like food decomposes.

For more  
information,  
visit:



<https://qrco.de/bcTSqY>

## Potential Strategies

1. Sending edible food to places like food banks and shelters instead of landfills
2. Sending inedible food waste, landscape waste, and other organic waste materials to composting facilities instead of landfills
3. On-site composting of organic waste
4. Providing facilities for off-site processing of organic waste materials

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# WATER & WASTE WATER

Using energy to extract, convey, deliver and treat drinking water and wastewater is another source of the County's GHG emissions. These emissions come from using electricity sourced from fossil fuels like natural gas and other fuels like diesel.

For more  
information,  
visit:



<https://qrco.de/bcTSr0>

## Potential Strategies

1. Using water efficient appliances in new buildings
2. Retrofitting existing buildings with water efficient appliances
3. Using native or drought-tolerant landscaping in new development
4. Prohibiting non-essential turf or lawns in new development
5. Replacing non-essential turf or lawns with native or drought-tolerant species
6. Using water efficient outdoor irrigation systems
7. Using rainwater and stormwater harvesting systems for landscape irrigation
8. Using greywater systems for landscape irrigation

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# AGRICULTURE & CONSERVATION

Agricultural activities like using fertilizer, operating equipment and pumps, and raising livestock are another source of the County's GHG emissions. Plants, trees, crops, and soils on farms, habitats, and open space areas also release emissions when they are developed or converted to another use. In addition to producing emissions, agricultural lands, habitats, and open space areas can also remove emissions from the atmosphere when certain farming, land management, and conservation practices are performed.

For more  
information,  
visit:



<https://qrco.de/bcTSrM>

## Potential Strategies

1. Preserving farmland for agriculture
2. Preserving and restoring natural habitat and open space areas
3. Farming with techniques and practices that remove emissions from the atmosphere (e.g., composting, changing/adding crops, windbreaks, soil management, grazing techniques)
4. Using more efficient or zero emission farm equipment
5. Increasing trees and green spaces in developed communities

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