THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE ISSUED: July 25, 2013 REPORT NO: 13-069

ATTENTION: Natural Resources and Culture Committee

SUBJECT: City of San Diego Climate Action Plan

THIS IS AN INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COMMITTEE.

SUMMARY:

The City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) provides a roadmap for achieving the 2020 and 2035 greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets. The CAP identifies strategies and measures to achieve this target and lists general approaches to prepare for and adapt to a changing climate. Attainment of the reduction targets requires commitment to local and regional actions, as well as continued implementation of federal and state mandates. These actions will contribute to the City's current and future prosperity and sustainability by: 1) conserving resources such as energy and water; 2) fostering the creation of green jobs; and 3) furthering San Diego's leadership in clean technology industries.

BACKGROUND:

The City's first Climate Protection Action Plan was approved by the Mayor and City Council in 2005, and was central to fostering heightened awareness and "climate change literacy" within the City organization and the community. Most of the measures were focused on City operations. An analysis of the communitywide GHG emissions generated from energy, transportation and waste for 2004, 2007, 2008 and 2009 increased over time.

The City's General Plan Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) specifically requires the mitigation of climate change. The CAP also supports two key policies in the General Plan's Conservation Element:

- Policy CE-A.2 to "reduce the City's carbon footprint" and to "develop and adopt new or amended regulations, programs and incentives as appropriate to implement the goals and policies set forth" related to climate change.
- Policy CE-A.13 to "regularly monitor, update, and implement the City's Climate Protection Action Plan, to ensure at a minimum, compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws."

In 2010, the Mayor and City Council approved the concept of the more comprehensive Climate Action Plan (formerly known as Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plan) that would include community GHG reduction measures as well as adaptation recommendations. The Mayor and City Council established the Environmental and Economic Sustainability Task Force (EESTF) that, as part of the CAP development process, played an advisory role to City staff. In December 2012, the environmental document was completed on the draft plan, as per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Since the completion of the CEQA process, several recommendations and targets in the draft plan were revised which may require new environmental review of the revised plan.

DISCUSSION:

The goal of the CAP is to provide a roadmap for achieving the City's 2020 and 2035 greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets. The "baseline" is the average of the communitywide GHG inventories for 2004, 2007 and 2008, which is consistent with the California Climate Change Scoping Plan. The State's GHG emission target for 2020 and 2050 is 15% and 80% respectively below the baseline. The CAP is projected to reduce GHG by 19 % for 2020. The GHG reduction measures are grouped in four sectors: energy; transportation; land use and waste management. Examples of measures may include the following:

Sector	Example of Implementation Action by 2020
Energy	20% of single family homes have completed energy efficiency measures that have produced an average of 30% energy savings.
Transportation	Increase preferred parking for electric vehicles by 10%.
Land Use and Food Systems	Increase local food production and availability by 50%
Waste Management	Achieve 75% waste diversion from landfill disposal.

Reducing GHG emissions has associated co-benefits that will contribute to the City's current and future prosperity and sustainability by; 1) conserving resources such as energy and water; 2) fostering the creation of green jobs; and 3) furthering San Diego's leadership in clean technology industries.

The CAP describes regional vulnerabilities resulting from a changing climate, including increased temperature, drought, wildfire, sea level rise, and extreme weather events. It identifies general approaches for the City to adapt to a changing climate.

Achieving the targets in the CAP will take investment in energy efficiency and clean energy in San Diego. The CAP provides a roadmap for creating and sustaining good-paying jobs and will include findings about the number and quality of potential jobs. The CAP specifically addresses leveraging San Diego's extensive education and training infrastructure to carry out projects successfully. Because there are difficulties forecasting jobs based on the CAP measures, the CAP calls for setting performance goals and tracking data about the quantity and quality of jobs as well as the demographic and geographic distribution of workers. The CAP will include guidelines for training investment and performance goals, contractor qualifications and worker

skill certifications, employment for disadvantaged communities and veterans, compliance, and oversight.

Consistent with the 20 to 30 year planning horizon of the City's 2008 General Plan Update, the CAP establishes a planning horizon of 2035. The planning horizon is also consistent with state laws, policies, and targets such as Senate Bill 375, the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008, which establish the planning horizon for regional transportation planning. Executive Order S-3-05 sets statewide GHG reduction targets of reaching 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. The Executive Order's 2020 target (along with the parallel target set forth in AB32) and the 2050 target establish the CAP's reduction trajectory that informs the estimate for the level of GHG emission reduction needed by 2035. The Executive Order reflects the best available science through peer review and vetting by regulators and stakeholders.

A draft CAP report was available for public review from August 30, 2012 until October 1, 2012. Based on those comments, some revisions were made. The most significant changes are as follows:

1. Revised energy conservation, water conservation, renewable energy, public transit, and alternative transportation targets to achieve the City's GHG targets.
2. Additional clarification about the 2020, 2035 and 2050 targets have been added to the Executive Summary, Chapter 1 (Introduction), Chapter 3 (Emissions Inventory, Forecasts and Reduction Targets) and Chapter 4 (Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Measures)
3. The Annual Monitoring Report has been more fully described in the Executive Summary, Chapter 3 and Chapter 6 (Monitoring and Implementation).
4. More specific information about ecosystems and trees has been added in Chapter 4.
5. The Solar Photovoltaic Sensitivity Analysis in Chapter 4 has been updated.
6. More detailed analysis of the jobs and workforce impacts of taking measures to achieve targets.
7. Disproportional impact of climate change on communities of color.

Next Steps –

If changes to the GHG reduction measures are significant, another CEQA environmental review process may be required. It is anticipated that this process may extend the completion of the CAP to Fall of 2014.

CAP Implementation Process-

The CAP implementation process will require a specific set of actions and timelines to achieve the various mitigation strategies. A 3-year Implementation Plan will be presented to City Council for approval at the same time as the full draft plan is presented. This plan will include a specific set of priority actions for achieving GHG mitigation, and outline the timelines and parties responsible for implementing these actions.

CAP Annual Monitoring Report-

The CAP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) will include an updated GHG Emissions Inventory and track the success of the GHG reduction measures. It will also include significant new or revised policies or programs from the local, state or federal levels, and significant pricing changes for technologies related to the CAP measures. This will be a public document and will be presented to the Mayor and City Council. The first AMR will be available 1 year after CAP approval by the Mayor and City Council.

CEQA Compliance:

The City will set thresholds of significance in tons of CO2e/year in order to make the plan a "qualified Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan" under CEQA and for use in CEQA tiers. Until such time as these thresholds are complete, GHG analysis and mitigation required by CEQA will occur for each project.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Anticipated fiscal impacts to complete the CAP vary, based upon the extent of changes made to the draft CAP.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL and/or COMMITTEE ACTION:

City Council Meeting, March 15, 2011, ITEM-331, Adopted R-2011-753
Committee on Natural Resources and Culture, July 21, 2010, Item 3
City Council Meeting, October 5, 2009, Item # 150
Committee on Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Relations, May 13, 2009
Committee on Natural Resources and Culture, June 24, 2009
City Council Meeting, January 7, 2004, CMR 04-003
Committee on Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Relations, October 16, 2002, CMR 02-233
City Council Meeting, January 28, 2002, Resolution 2002-881

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH:

There has been extensive public outreach consisting of more than 26 presentations. We expect revised 2020 and 2035 GHG emission reduction measures to be presented to the EESTF, and a revised draft Climate Action Plan prepared based on these measures to come back to NR&C as an action item in September.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND PROJECTED IMPACT:

The key stakeholders associated with this item include residents and businesses in the San Diego community.

The City of San Diego as Lead Agency under CEQA has prepared and completed a Negative Declaration, SCH No. 2012081049, covering this activity. Successful program implementation will provide a comprehensive analysis of greenhouse gas emissions and identify mitigation and

adaptation strategies that meet current state and federal requirements, and prepare San Diego for possible future mandates. The CAP can also influence future City infrastructure and planning decisions based on adaptation to regional vulnerabilities in a changing climate. This resilience would be a benefit for all residents in the City of San Diego.

Originating Department

Assistant Chief Operating Officer