



# CITY OF SAN CARLOS

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| AGENDA CATEGORY:  |       |
| BUSINESS SESSION: | _____ |
| CONSENT CALENDAR: | _____ |
| PUBLIC HEARING:   | _____ |
| STUDY SESSION:    | _____ |
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**COUNCIL MEETING DATE:** June 24, 2013

**ITEM TITLE:** Report to Council – Climate Action Plan Scorecard

### **BACKGROUND**

The City’s Climate Action Plan (CAP) contains a series of measures that assist the San Carlos community and the City of San Carlos in reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. It shares measures in the General Plan 2030 and is linked by references in both documents.

It was developed during the General Plan 2030 Update process by City Staff and a Climate Action Plan Subcommittee made up of 3 members from the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC). The CAP was sent to the GPAC and Planning Commission for review and then to the City Council. The City Council adopted the CAP as part their final actions adopting the General Plan 2030 in October 2009.

### **REDUCTION GOALS & GHG INVENTORIES**

The CAP includes these Greenhouse Gas reduction goals:

- 15% reduction in community and city/agency GHG emissions from 2005 levels by 2020
- 35% reduction in community and city/agency GHG emissions from 2005 levels by 2030

To measure the City’s progress towards these goals, the CAP sets out a program to measure GHG emissions from both the San Carlos community as a whole and the City of San Carlos as a government agency every 5 years.

The City has completed three GHG inventories to date:

- 2008 – GHG Inventory – 2005 Community Wide Emissions
- 2009 – GHG Inventory – 2005 City Government Emissions
- 2012 – GHG Inventory – 2010 City Government Emissions
- 2013 - GHG Inventory – 2005 Community Wide Emissions (planned: Fall 2013)

### **CLIMATE ACTION PLAN SCORECARD**

The Climate Action Plan Scorecard is designed to report on the City’s progress towards meeting the GHG reduction goals adopted by the City Council. The scorecard also details the progress the City has made in completing the 21 reduction measures in the Climate Action Plan. It is designed to be updated and presented annually to the City Council. Key findings in this year’s report are:

- The City has reduced its GHG emissions by 12.5% (vs. the 15% goal by 2020)
- 17 of the 21 measures in the Climate Action Plan have been completed
- The Climate Action Plan is scheduled for review and revision in the coming year

**Conclusion**

As we saw in the recent 2013 Annual Green Report, San Carlos has a very active set of Green Programs and Climate Protection Initiatives underway at the City and throughout the community. These programs are helping to reduce the City’s agency GHG emissions.

Staff looks forward to the 2010 Community-wide GHG Inventory to measure how the community as a whole is doing towards the GHG reduction goals set for 2020. Once this information is available, it will assist the City and the community as the discussions begin in 2014 on what measures will be needed in the future to continue towards the 2020 and 2030 reduction goals in the Climate Action Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

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Brian Moura, Assistant City Manager

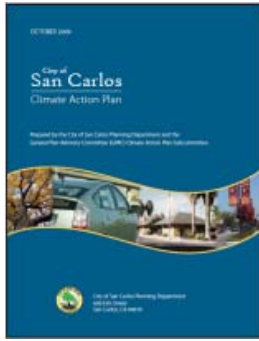
Approved for submission by:

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Jeff Maltbie, City Manager

**Attachments**

1. San Carlos Climate Action Plan Scorecard (June 24, 2013)
2. City of San Carlos – Climate Action Plan (October 2009)



## San Carlos Climate Action Plan Scorecard

### June 24, 2013

### Climate Action Plan

The San Carlos City Council adopted its first Climate Action Plan in October 2009. The purpose of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) is to adopt a series of measures that will assist San Carlos in reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. The City's goals are:

- **15% reduction in community and city/agency GHG emissions from 2005 levels by 2020**
- **35% reduction in community and city/agency GHG emissions from 2005 levels by 2030**

### Updates

The CAP specifies updates in GHG measurements in 5 year increments (2005, 2010, 2015, etc.). It also specifies that the Climate Action Plan itself will be updated every 5 years.

- **The first update of the CAP is due in October 2014.**

### GHG Reduction - Progress to Date

The City of San Carlos completed a city/agency GHG inventory for emissions in 2010 in September 2012. This inventory report was approved by the City Council on November 26, 2012. The results showed major progress towards the 2020 GHG reduction target for city/agency activities:

- **12.5% reduction in GHG emissions from city/agency activities between 2005 and 2010**

Next Steps:

- **Completion of a 2010 GHG inventory for community-wide emissions in the Fall of 2013**

### Climate Action Plan Measures

The Climate Action Plan includes 21 measures that are designed to reduce GHG emissions in San Carlos during the period of 2005-2020. The measures shown in the CAP are planned as occurring in three 5 year blocks: 2005-2010, 2010-2015 and 2015-2020. These measures focus on areas including Building Efficiency & Site Design, Auto Emission Reduction, Low Carbon Energy Use, Alternative Non-Automotive Travel Modes and Waste Reduction Programs.

## Phase 1: Reduction Measures Scheduled for 2005-2010

### 1. Expand Energy Saving Opportunities to Businesses

○ **Status: Done**

○ **Lead Department:** City Manager

○ **Partners:** PG&E, Chamber of Commerce, San Mateo County, Green Business Program, San Mateo County Energy Watch

○ **Comments:**

The City has partnered with PG&E and the San Carlos Chamber of Commerce to provide several programs that encourage businesses to take advantage of energy savings rebates, grants and discounts. The City has also worked with the County and the Green Business Program (GBP) to certify over 35 businesses in San Carlos as GBPs. These programs have encouraged San Carlos firms to cut literally thousands and in some cases tens of thousands of kilowatt hours from their PG&E service – saving the businesses money, improving their profitability and reducing their carbon footprint.

### 2. Improve Residential Energy Efficiency

○ **Status: Done**

○ **Lead Department:** City Manager

○ **Partners:** PG&E, San Carlos Green, Solar City, San Mateo County, Energy Upgrade California

○ **Comments:**

The City has offered programs to San Carlos residents to cut energy use. These include a successful Community-wide discount installation of Solar Energy Systems with Solar City and San Carlos Green and participation in the recent Energy Upgrade California program. These programs enabled a number of San Carlos homeowners to cut their energy usage and energy bills by adding Solar Systems to their roofs and obtaining energy audits and installing energy efficient systems in their homes.

### 3. Encourage Development that is Mixed-Use, Infill and Higher Density

○ **Status: Done**

○ **Lead Department:** Community Development - Planning

○ **Partners:** General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), Planning Commission, City Council

○ **Comments:**

During the preparation and adoption of the City General Plan 2030 Update, the GPAC, Planning Commission and City Council adopted a General Plan that encourages the development that is mixed-use, infill and higher density.

**4. Increase Housing Density near Transit**

- Status: Done**
- Lead Department:** Community Development - Planning
- Partners:** General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), Planning Commission, City Council
- Comments:**  
During the preparation and adoption of the City General Plan 2030 Update, the GPAC, Planning Commission and City Council adopted a General Plan that increases housing density near transit.

**5. Actively Promote Walking and Biking as Safe Modes of Local Travel, Particularly for Children Attending Local Schools**

- Status: Done**
- Lead Department:** Public Works
- Partners:** Police Department, Transportation & Circulation Commission, City Council, 2+2 City/School Committee, San Carlos School District, San Carlos Green
- Comments:**  
Public Works has worked with the 2+2 City/School Committee and the San Carlos School District to obtain Safe Routes to Schools grant funding to improve the walkability and bike friendly nature of routes near schools in San Carlos. San Carlos School District and San Carlos Green have worked on “San Car-less” days and events to encourage students to walk or bike to school.

**6. Create Travel Routes that Ensure Destinations May be Reached Conveniently by Public Transit, Bicycling and Walking**

- Status: Done**
- Lead Department:** Public Works
- Partners:** Police Department, Transportation & Circulation Commission, City Council
- Comments:**  
The Public Works department along with the Police department, Transportation & Circulation Commission and the City Council have developed and approved several new bike lanes and sharrows (shared bicycle/auto lanes) in San Carlos.

**7. Convert More City Vehicles to Hybrid, Alternative Fuel or Smaller Vehicles**

- Status: Done**
- Lead Department:** Public Works
- Partners:** Community Development - Building Division, Police Department
- Comments:**  
Public Works and its Garage division has worked to bring more hybrid and smaller vehicles into the City Vehicle Fleet during this period. This includes the downsizing and use of hybrid cars for Building Inspectors and the purchase of a hybrid SUV for the Police Chief known at the City as the “Green Chief” vehicle.

**8. Increase Overall Waste Diversion by at Least 1% Per Year**

- **Status: Done**
- **Lead Department:** City Manager
- **Partners:** Rethink Waste/SBWMA, Recology San Mateo County, Green Team Block Leaders in San Carlos, San Carlos Green
- **Comments:**

The City Managers department has led a program in cooperation with RethinkWaste/SBWMA, Recology San Mateo County and Green Team Block Leaders in San Carlos to increase waste diversion/recycling and reduce trash going to the landfill at Ox Mountain. This has included programs in San Carlos to pilot residential compost and food scraps (with outreach assistance from San Carlos Green), cell phone recycling and battery recycling. It also includes the new weekly recycling and single stream recycling programs that came on-line in 2011. The result has been a single family residential recycling rate in San Carlos that has increased from 48% in 2008 to 72% today and an overall waste diversion rate that has surpassed the 1% per year target in the CAP. In the coming year, San Carlos will continue to work with RethinkWaste in exploring Every Other Week (EOW) collection to further reduce trash and increase diversion in San Carlos.

**9. Enforce Affordable Housing Development Standards**

- **Status: Done**
- **Lead Department:** Community Development – Economic Development & Housing
- **Partners:** Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDAC), Planning Commission, City Council
- **Comments:**

San Carlos continues to work with developers and property owners to provide for the creation of Affordable Workforce Housing in the City. The City also funds housing-related non-profit organizations through the In-Lieu Housing funds to achieve these goals. The City has also adopted amendments to the Below Market Rate (BMR) Housing Ordinance.

**Phase 2: Reduction Measures Scheduled for 2010-2015**

**10. Adopt a Green Building Standard for All New Development & Major Remodels**

- **Status: Done**
- **Lead Department:** Community Development - Building
- **Partners:** State Building Standards Commission, City Council
- **Comments:**

San Carlos was one of the first cities in the County to adopt the State's CalGreen Green Building Code along with a Tier 1 enhancement to the CalGreen Code – 15% above Title 24 Energy Requirements. In the past year, the City Council raised these standards higher by adding Green Rating Points and LEED standards to obtain specified permits.

**11. Create Water and Waste Efficient Landscapes**

- **Status: Done**
- **Lead Department:** Community Development - Planning
- **Partners:** General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), Planning Commission, City Council
- **Comments:**  
During the preparation and adoption of the City General Plan 2030 Update, the GPAC, Planning Commission and City Council adopted a General Plan that includes standards and requirements for water and waste efficient landscapes.

**12. Identify Opportunities for On-Site Renewable Energy Generation**

- **Status: Done**
- **Lead Department:** Community Development - Building
- **Partners:** Silicon Valley Chapter, California Building Officials Association, San Carlos businesses
- **Comments:**  
San Carlos has adopted the Silicon Valley Model Code Amendments that encourage the installation of Solar Energy Generation. Several San Carlos businesses have installed Solar Systems that provide a major portion of their electricity needs – the largest of these are at SBWMA’s Shoreway Environmental Center on Shoreway Road and at the REI Store on Brittan Avenue.

**13. Implement Reduction Strategies Included in the Energy Audit of City Facilities & Continue to Monitor City Facility Performance**

- **Status: Done**
- **Lead Department:** Public Works – Building Maintenance
- **Partners:** PG&E, San Mateo County Energy Watch, City Manager department, City Council, State Department of Energy, EECBG Grant Funding
- **Comments:**  
After an energy audit of City Building energy use and lighting, the City of San Carlos used General Capital Improvement Funds and a portion of the San Carlos Energy Efficiency Block Grant from the State and Federal Recovery Act to implement the results of the Energy Audits conducted by the Association of Bay Area Governments, San Mateo County Energy Watch and PG&E. The result was the installation of more efficient lighting at several City facilities. The City is exploring an audit opportunity in the future for more efficient heating, ventilating and air condition (HVAC) systems with PG&E and San Mateo County Energy Watch.

**14. Provide for Increased Albedo (reflectivity) of All Urban Surfaces including Roads, Driveways, Sidewalks, and Roofs in order to Minimize the Urban Heat Island Effect**

o **Status: Future**

o **Lead Department:** Community Development - Building

o **Partners:** Silicon Valley Chapter, California Building Officials Association, San Carlos businesses

o **Comments:**

San Carlos has adopted the Silicon Valley Model Code Amendments that encourage the installation of Solar Energy Generation. Several San Carlos businesses have installed Solar Systems that provide a major portion of their electricity needs – the largest of these are at SBWMA’s Shoreway Environmental Center on Shoreway Road and at the REI Store on Brittan Avenue.

**15. Encourage Tree Planting**

o **Status: Done**

o **Lead Department:** Community Development - Planning

o **Partners:** General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), Planning Commission, City Council, Parks & Recreation department, Parks & Recreation Commission

o **Comments:**

During the preparation and adoption of the City General Plan 2030 Update, the GPAC, Planning Commission and City Council adopted a General Plan that includes amending the City’s Tree Ordinance to encourage tree planting. The City Parks & Recreation department has also planted additional trees at City parks as part of resuming the City’s membership in the Tree City USA program after an absence for several years due to past budget deficits. The Zoning Ordinance Update also includes landscape requirements to promote reduced water use, more gardens and landscaping and trees.

**16. Increase Bike Parking**

o **Status: Done**

o **Lead Department:** Community Development - Planning

o **Partners:** Planning Commission, City Council, City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG)

o **Comments:**

The City’s Zoning Ordinance Update includes amendments for bicycle parking and parking standards amendments which will stimulate the development of bike parking. Biking and added bike parking will also be stimulated by Transportation Demand Management (TDM) requirements adopted by C/CAG.



### 17. Support Zero Waste

○ **Status: Being Studied**

○ **Lead Department:** City Manager

○ **Partners:** Rethink Waste/SBWMA, Recology San Mateo County, City Council, CalRecycle

○ **Comments:**

The City has worked with RethinkWaste and Recology on a number of pilots and programs to increase diversion and reduce the level of materials going to the landfill. The City also has a Mandatory Commercial and Multi-Family Residential Recycling Ordinance that will help move the diversion rates higher in San Carlos. The City is also in compliance with the initial requirements of AB 341 which envisions a 75% diversion rate in 2020. The City will continue to work on these programs and others as the State moves towards a Zero Waste goal in the future.

### 18. Increase Recycling and Composting at All Public Events

○ **Status: Done**

○ **Lead Department:** City Manager

○ **Partners:** Rethink Waste/SBWMA, Recology San Mateo County, San Carlos Chamber of Commerce, County Library System, Friends of the San Carlos Library

○ **Comments:**

The City has worked with RethinkWaste and Recology on increasing recycling and composting at public events. In addition, the City has implemented a program of adding recycling and compost containers at City buildings and facilities where public events and meetings are held. This led to the City recently winning an award with the County Library System and the Friends of the Library at the San Carlos Library as part of the Annual BizSmart Awards program.

## Phase 3: Reduction Measures Scheduled for 2015-2020

### 19. Provide for a Shuttle Service in order to Increase Transit Ridership

○ **Status: Being Studied**

○ **Lead Department:** Public Works

○ **Partners:** City Manager department, Samtrans, 2+2 City/Schools Committee, C/CAG, San Carlos School District

○ **Comments:**

The City is exploring several opportunities to provide for Shuttle Services in San Carlos. They include partnerships with the San Carlos School District through the 2+2 City/Schools Committee, C/CAG's Shuttle Grant program and Samtrans plans to develop a pilot transit program in San Carlos to improve transit options in the City.

## 20. Promote Car Sharing Programs

○ **Status: Future**

○ **Lead Department:** Community Development - Planning

○ **Partners:** City Manager department

○ **Comments:**

The City has plans to explore car sharing programs at the Caltrain Station in San Carlos as well as major development proposals in San Carlos which have Transportation Demand Management (TDM) requirements and needs.

## 21. Increase Accommodation and Promotion of Alternately Fueled Vehicles and Hybrid Vehicles

○ **Status: Done**

○ **Lead Department:** Community Development - Planning

○ **Partners:** Community Development – Building, Planning Commission, City Council

○ **Comments:**

The City's Zoning Ordinance Update includes allowance for alternative fueling stations and on-site energy in existing and new developments. The Building division has adopted standards that make it easier for businesses and residents in San Carlos to add fueling stations for hybrid and electric vehicles.

## Summary

The June 2013 edition of the Climate Action Plan Scorecard shows that quite a bit of progress has been made in the goals set by the City Council when the CAP was adopted in 2009.

- **17 of the 21 Climate Action Plan goals have been completed.**

## Next Steps

With the development of the Climate Action Plan Scorecard, the City now has a tool to manage and track the progress of the goals set in the Climate Action Plan. Next steps include:

- **Integration of the Climate Action Plan Scorecard in the Annual Green Report each summer.**
- **Beginning work on the review of the CAP and updating the plan in 2014 as scheduled.**