

General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #7

January 5, 2010

Environmental Sustainability: Goals and Policies

Mitigate impacts of climate change.

1. Continue to maintain a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and climate action plan.
2. Set long-term and interim greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets.
3. Implement policies for municipal operations and the community to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.
4. Monitor progress on sustainability and climate change over time through indicators.
5. Strive to become a carbon-neutral city.
6. Develop adaptation strategy to address the impacts of climate change.
7. Continue to maintain and expand the tree canopy citywide.
8. Implement heat island reduction strategies.

Reduce building-related energy demand, especially non-renewable energy

1. Maintain and regularly update the City's Green Building Ordinance.
2. Increase energy efficiency in public and private buildings.
3. Require energy-efficient technologies in all new construction.
4. Encourage and support renewable energy production on public and private buildings.
5. Support communitywide financing mechanisms to encourage investment in carbon-reducing strategies on private buildings.

Reduce emissions from transportation

Transportation policies have already been reviewed by the Committee in December as part of the Circulation policy framework, and are not repeated here. We anticipate housing transportation related policies in the Circulation Element, as previously reviewed by the Committee.

Reduce air pollution and improve air quality

1. Protect the City's air quality and improve overall respiratory health for residents.
2. Support land use and transportation strategies to reduce driving rates and air pollution.
3. Promote fuel efficiency for vehicles and construction/maintenance equipment.
4. Continue to ban the use of two-stroke engines in the City (e.g., from landscape equipment).
5. Support increased local access to cleaner fuels.

Prioritize green businesses and practices.

1. Explore opportunities for green businesses in the City.
2. Collaborate with other local governments to promote green businesses in the region.

Become a zero waste city.

1. Provide ongoing education to residents and businesses about waste reduction, composting, and recycling.
2. Continue to provide services for recycling and composting.
3. Encourage the use of recycled building materials in all new city-sponsored projects and private developments over a certain size.
4. Support legislation to reduce the creation of waste.
5. Collaborate with other government agencies to promote waste reduction.

Increase water use effectiveness.

1. Establish a citywide water efficiency and conservation program.
2. Create an enforcement plan for the water conservation ordinance.
3. Mandate water saving fixtures and equipment in all new buildings.
4. Consider local options for water treatment and reuse and participate in regional wastewater recycling and utilization efforts.

Eliminate the discharge of environmental contaminants in urban runoff

1. Maximize local actions to reduce, capture and treat urban runoff, within the constraints of the water table and geology.
2. Collaborate with other government agencies and the Santa Monica Bay Watershed to reduce and remove contaminants in urban runoff.