

2017 Annual Report
Climate Action Plan





The City of San Diego is leading the nation in climate action.



San Diego's Climate Action Plan calls for bold vision, ambitious leadership and innovative partnerships to turn the challenges ahead into opportunities to create a better future for all.

It's not always going to be easy, but I am confident we are doing the right thing. I have never been more excited and proud of San Diego's leadership when it comes to clean energy, sustainability and economic growth. We are forging a path ahead and improving the lives of our residents now and for generations to come.

I am proud to present the results and progress we have achieved this year. This report marks our second annual report and demonstrates how far San Diego has already come in sustainability and the many exciting next steps ahead we are taking to make San Diego smart, connected and sustainable.

Sincerely,

Kevin L. Faulconer
Mayor, City of San Diego

Climate Action Plan

In 2015, the City of San Diego adopted the **Climate Action Plan (CAP)** to improve quality of life for all San Diegans.

Becoming Sustainable

Sustainability is connecting greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions with the co-benefits of improving the economy and ensuring equal opportunity.



Reducing GHG emissions



Supporting job creation



Enhancing social equity

Five Strategies

The Climate Action Plan outlines **five bold strategies** to achieve its ambitious goals.



Energy and Water Efficiency



Clean and Renewable Energy



Bicycling, Walking, Transit and Land Use



Zero Waste



Resiliency

Thinking about the future

The City of San Diego continues to be a leader in its commitments to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while fostering economic growth and promoting social equity.

For San Diego, sustainability means making better use of resources, such as water, energy and waste; designing neighborhoods to be more walkable, bikable and livable; and investing in the future by supporting clean-energy technology, innovation and jobs.

The Climate Action Plan provides a roadmap for how San Diego can achieve its GHG emission-reduction targets. Together, these integrated actions are transforming the way the City connects and collaborates with San Diegans.

In this 2017 Annual Report, the City details its Climate Action Plan progress and what it strives to accomplish next. For the second consecutive year, the City has reduced its carbon footprint and remains ahead of its targets. This measurable progress is a testament to the dedicated support and collaboration of our environmentally conscious residents and businesses in our communities.

The City of San Diego thanks you.

"Sustainability isn't just the right thing to do. It's the smart thing to do."
Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer

San Diego excels as a region

San Diegans continue to receive acclaim for making sustainability a priority in their homes and businesses.

No. 1

Solar Rooftop Installations



Shining Cities Report 2016

No. 1

Climate and Carbon Management



U.S. Clean Tech Leadership Index 2017

No. 4

Clean Technology Leadership



U.S. Clean Tech Leadership Index 2017

Staying on Target

San Diego measures progress on climate action.



Reducing GHG emissions

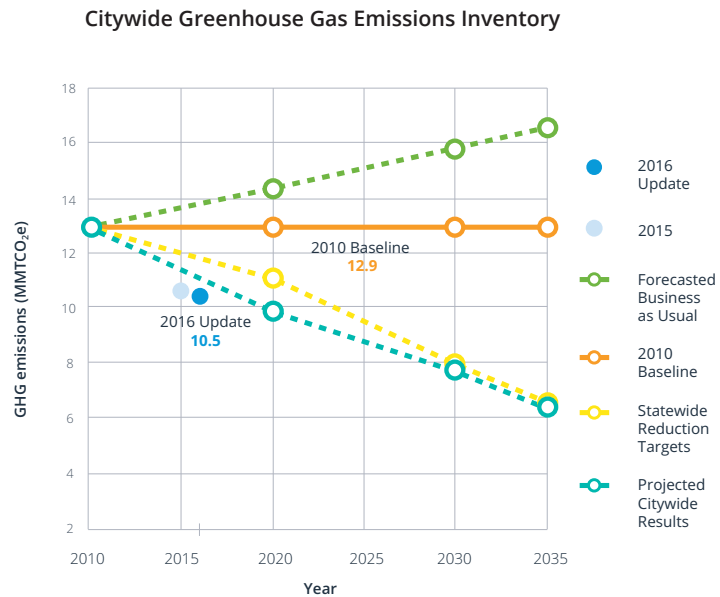
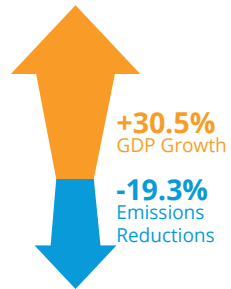
For a second consecutive year, San Diego is ahead of pace in reducing GHG emissions.

-19.3%
Reduction in City-wide GHG emissions
2010-2016

The reductions are largely due to higher vehicle efficiency standards, increases in renewable energy generation (SDG&E's higher renewable content and increases in distributed solar systems in the City), and a higher solid waste diversion rate.

Growing a cleaner economy

Since 2010, San Diego's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has increased while the City's GHG inventory has decreased, demonstrating the ability to grow economically while reducing GHG emissions.

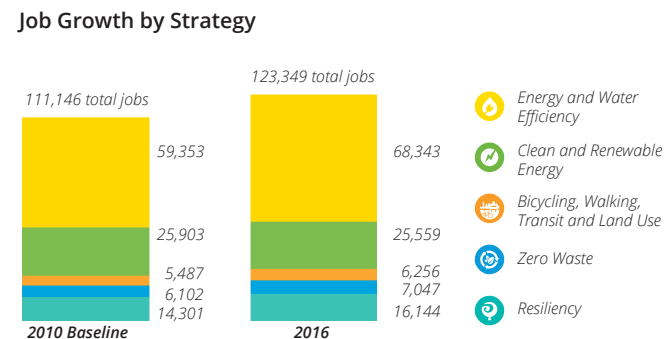


Supporting job creation

The City's commitment to sustainability creates jobs in clean technology and climate-related fields for San Diegans.

+10.9%
Growth in sustainability-related jobs
2010-2016

In 2016, clean technology job levels continued to grow, with the Clean and Renewable Energy sector experiencing the largest annual increase. San Diego's cleantech job concentration is 2.6 times the national average.



Enhancing social equity

The City invests in a sustainable future for San Diego through workforce training, energy efficiency projects and development projects.

In Fiscal Year 2016, the City allocated \$784,516 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to projects that aligned with the strategies of the Climate Action Plan.

Community Development Projects

- 34** photo voltaic solar systems installed
- \$350,000** CDBG funds invested in sidewalks and transit improvement in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods
- 25** graduates of solar installer apprentice program
- 87** youth participants in urban garden program



Second Chance offers urban gardening as workforce training to local youth.

Facing the Challenge

Key strategies set San Diego's course.

Actions + Progress

The five strategies outlined in the Climate Action Plan provide a roadmap to reaching the City's ambitious goals.

The City continues to measure progress using best available data. As data and methodologies improve, the reported metrics will be updated.

Reviewing the data

- Goal Description
- Progress Metric
- The Baseline

Energy and Water Efficiency

- Reducing residential energy use**
18% reduction
2010 baseline: 5000 kW, 300 therms
- Reducing municipal energy use**
5% reduction
2010 baseline: 205 million kW, 3 million therms
- Reducing daily per capita water use**
13% reduction
2010 baseline: 128 gallons per capita per day

Clean and Renewable Energy

- Achieve 100 percent renewable electricity**
43% renewable
through Community Choice Aggregation or another program
2010 baseline: 11% citywide
- Increase municipal zero emission vehicles**
90 ZEVs/45 hybrids
2010 baseline: 0% zero emissions vehicles in City fleet
- Convert waste collection trucks to low-emission fuel**
13 CNG-powered trucks
2010 baseline: 0% conversion of trucks "CNG" is Compressed Natural Gas

Bicycling, Walking, Transit and Land Use

- Increase mass transit in transit priority areas**
314,127 average weekday passengers
2010 baseline: 4% commuters
*Source: MTS 2016
- Implement pedestrian improvements**
12,000 linear feet sidewalk improved
2010 baseline: 3.5% commuters
- Implement the Bicycle Master Plan**
56.8 miles bike lanes added or improved
2010 baseline: 2% commuters
- Optimize traffic signals and roundabouts**
60 signals/2 roundabouts installed
2010 baseline: 40 signals per year
- Reduce miles traveled in transit priority areas**
544,231 vehicle miles total reduced
2010 baseline: 25 miles/day

Zero Waste

- Enact zero waste and divert landfill trash**
66% diversion
2010 baseline: 52% solid waste diversion
- Implement landfill gas collection**
75% capture
2010 baseline: 75% capture
- Capture methane from wastewater treatment**
98-99% capture
2010 baseline: 71% methane capture

"In San Diego, sustainability is not only about saving the world. It's equally about economic opportunity. The solutions provided by our region's cleantech companies are leading the way forward to a more prosperous carbon-free economy."

Erik Caldwell
Director, Economic Development
City of San Diego



Resiliency

- Increase urban tree canopy cover**
13% cover
2010 baseline: 6.8% urban canopy cover

Local Partnerships Lead Sustainability

Businesses, nonprofits and communities make great strides.

Looking Ahead

One smart, connected and sustainable city is the future of San Diego.



Ocean Discovery Institute unveils its Living Lab science and conservation building

Created through a partnership with the San Diego Unified School District, the Living Lab is a state-of-the-art facility designed to inspire future leaders in low-income communities.

Ocean Discovery Institute uses ocean science to empower young people across San Diego. The new facility is near completion and will be a 12,000-square-foot, LEED*-Platinum building located in City Heights and within walking distance for thousands of students. Ocean Discovery Institute is a nonprofit that exemplifies sustainability through its youth-education focus; its character- and skill-building of young leaders; and its commitment to reducing the carbon footprint. The City of San Diego appreciates the hard work of the region's nonprofit community.

The City of San Diego has many ambitious sustainability initiatives in 2018 and beyond



San Diego's Smart City Initiative

San Diego is defining what it means to be a "smart city". Through a broad public-private partnership, San Diego is launching the largest Internet of Things (IoT) platform in an urban environment, leveraging data to improve decision-making and outcomes.

Energy and Water Efficiency

Smart Street Lights Illuminate Efficiency

The installation of 3,600 new energy-efficient street lights in San Diego will save money while driving integration of smart solutions. New lights will be equipped with sensor technology, giving San Diego the largest Internet of Things (IoT) platform in the world.

Clean and Renewable Energy

100 Percent Renewable Energy

In 2018, the City will identify a pathway to reach 100 percent renewable electricity by 2035. San Diego is currently the largest U.S. City to commit to 100 percent. Once a pathway is chosen, San Diego will be the largest U.S. city to act on this goal.

Sustainability Program



47 LEED*-rated buildings



86 Energy reduction projects

Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc. proves business can be sustainable

Alexandria is helping San Diego grow a powerful economic base of life science and technology companies to create positive change in local communities.

Alexandria has nearly 200 properties across the United States, and it seeks a minimum LEED*-Gold rating for all new development projects. Alexandria takes the initiative to reduce energy and water consumption at its properties. It promotes green housekeeping and recycling practices, offers diverse employee-wellness programs and runs transportation programs that reduce traffic. The City of San Diego thanks its sustainable business partners.



Photo Courtesy of Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc.

Bicycling, Walking, Transit and Land Use

Mobility Monitoring Program

The City is developing a monitoring program to track the CAP's mobility goals. An initial survey will be administered to employees in Q4 2017 that will result in more localized data to assist in the development of the monitoring plan.

Zero Waste

Composting and Food Recovery

Through a recently awarded grant of \$3 million from the Environmental Protection Agency, the City will improve its composting operations and include food recovery to benefit low- to moderate-income residents while also supporting GHG emission reduction goals.

Resiliency

Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan

On August 14, 2017, the City's Planning Department was awarded a grant from the California Coastal Commission to complete technical studies, outreach and a sea level rise vulnerability assessment to support the first phase of development of the Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan.



Balboa Park shines as an example of collaboration and sustainability

Home to 10 LEED-rated buildings, Balboa Park demonstrates how sustainability, culture and recreation positively coexist.

This 1,200-acre urban cultural oasis welcomes more than 14 million residents and tourists each year. Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1977, Balboa Park practices sustainability, partnering with The Good Traveler to provide carbon offsets, composting 50 percent of its green waste onsite and using mostly (82 percent) museum office supplies that meet LEED* criteria. It has reduced energy and water usage, resulting in annual savings. The City of San Diego proudly showcases the Balboa Park community.

Sustainability Program



539 MT CO₂e offset



75+ Community partners

Sustainability funding

\$128 million in new funds have been dedicated to climate action in San Diego for Fiscal Year 2018. San Diego remains the first and only city to release a sustainability-specific budget.



San Diego honored for climate action

San Diego continues to lead by integrating economic development, social equity and environmental stewardship across City policy. The City of San Diego received the 2017 Beacon Spotlight Award for Climate Action and was named a finalist for the C40 Cities 4 Action Most Ambitious Climate Action Plan Award. This recognition drives San Diego to innovate for a smart, sustainable future.

*LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a globally recognized symbol of excellence in green building from the U.S. Green Building Council.

View and download the 2017 Annual Report online at www.sandiego.gov/sustainability



For more information or data,
please see the 2017 Climate Action
Plan Annual Report Appendix or visit
www.sandiego.gov/sustainability.

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Utilities Commission.*