

CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: PRIORITIZING ACTIONS FOR CLIMATE ACTION PLAN
IMPLEMENTATION
POLICY NO: 900-XX
EFFECTIVE DATE: TBD

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Defined

The City of San Diego's (City) Climate Action Plan (CAP) sets forth a comprehensive set of strategies, measures, targets, and actions to achieve the City's interim 2030 Fair Share reduction goal and ambitious 2035 goal of net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The CAP includes six bold strategies, each of which has numeric targets showing how the strategy helps the City achieve its overall GHG reduction goals.

CAP Implementation Plan Defined

As called for by the City Auditor, and in the Implementation and Monitoring chapter of the CAP, an implementation plan ~~is being~~ developed following adoption of the 2022 CAP. The implementation plan ~~will~~ helps the City continue to build its governance structure around CAP implementation to increase accountability, transparency, coordination, align with City budgeting decision, and inform department-level annual work plans. To meet these objectives, the Sustainability and Mobility Department ~~is develop~~ing a detailed Climate Action Implementation Plan (CAIP) that ~~will show~~describes how the City will implement each CAP measure, including responsible departments, partnerships, estimated costs, and the near-term work necessary for the realization of the associated targets over a five year span.

Within the CAIP, as well as the CAP, each of the actions ~~and supporting actions~~ identified to achieve CAP measures ~~and targets~~ ~~will~~ have corresponding ~~measures prioritization metrics~~ that may be utilized to prioritize the actions within the CAP, in accordance with recommendations made by the City Auditor.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to guide City staff during the development of the CAIP, as well as subsequent annual work plans and budget submissions. As detailed in [IBA Report 22-19](#), while the CAIP ~~will~~ contains numerous ~~measures metrics~~ that can be utilized to prioritize the various actions ~~and supporting actions~~, there is nothing within the CAP, CAIP, or other documents that speaks to how these ~~measures metrics~~ are to be ~~utilized~~weighed against one another. This policy ~~will~~ describes the various ~~measures prioritization metrics~~ contained in the CAIP, and how they ~~should be~~are judged against one another in order guide the prioritization of City staff and resources for CAP achievement.

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City staff ~~will~~should utilize this policy to rank the various actions ~~and supporting actions~~ in the CAIP, as well as new actions identified in other CAP-related plans that feed into the CAIP, in order to help determine which actions should be prioritized for budget requests and departmental workplans annually. This prioritization process ~~shall be~~should be utilized to evaluate actions against one another on their relative merits, based on the metrics contained in the CAIP.

This prioritization process is not designed, however, to make hard commitments that City staff must follow, as it is recognized that some actions may need to happen in certain sequential order for various reasons. Rather, the policy is designed to inform staff and Council decisions for those items where, other factors being equal, there is a policy determination that must be made as to whether or not an item is executed and funded prior to another.

Process

In order to implement a prioritization system, City staff ~~will~~should ~~annually~~ update the Implementation Matrix of the CAIP and continue to maintain the ~~measures prioritization metrics~~ contained therein for all current actions ~~and supporting actions~~, as well as new actions identified in other adjacent plans, prior to the development or updating of various departmental annual workplans and budget requests. In particular, the ~~measures metrics~~ defined below ~~shall~~will be maintained by City staff, with prioritization scores noted for each action ~~and supporting actions~~ in the Implementation Matrix, CAIP, annual workplans and budget requests.

A. CAIP Prioritization Measures Metrics

The following ~~measures metrics~~ shall be utilized to determine CAIP action ~~and supporting action~~ prioritization scores:

1. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Reduction Estimates

Staff, utilizing ~~measures the methodology~~ developed by the Energy Policy Initiatives Center (EPIC) at the University of San Diego, and in line with the detailed appendix of the Climate Action Plan, will ~~denote score~~ the estimated GHG emission reductions for each action, ranking them as High, Medium, or Low. ~~Additionally, those actions which are defined as Foundational will receive the GHG ranking of the overall measure which the action supports, as opposed to the ranking of the action itself.~~ A score of High will be awarded full points, a score of Medium ~~66~~75% of the total points, and a score of Low ~~50~~33% of the total points available for each action.

2. ~~Funding Need~~ — Near Term

~~Based on estimates provided by EPIC and/or the appropriate departmental staff, each action and supporting action will have a funding estimate for the next three years, noted~~

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~~in the Implementation Matrix with one or multiple dollar signs (“\$”). The ranges and points awarded shall be as follows:~~

- ~~• \$ Less than \$100,000 100%~~
- ~~• \$\$ \$100,000 – \$350,000 75%~~
- ~~• \$\$\$ \$350,000 – \$1,000,000 50%~~
- ~~• \$\$\$\$ Greater than \$1,000,000 25%~~

3.2. Feasibility

The feasibility score is a composite score based on all of the feasibility subscores contained within the Implementation Plan, based on the questions and scores developed by staff. Each action or supporting action will be given a score on a scale from 1-10, which will directly relate to the proportion of points earned for this measure.

4.3. Equitable Implementation

The equitable implementation score is a composite score based on all of the equitable implementation subscores contained within the Implementation Plan, based on the questions and scores developed by staff. Each action or supporting action will be given a score on a scale from 1-10, which will directly relate to the proportion of points earned for this measure.

5.4. Air Quality

The air quality score is a composite score based on all of the Air Quality subscores contained within the Implementation Plan, based on the questions and scores developed by staff. Each action or supporting action will be given a score on a scale from 0-10 (where 0=Not Applicable), which will directly relate to the proportion of points earned for this measure.

6.5. Public Health

The public health score is a composite score based on all of the Public Health subscores contained within the Implementation Plan, based on the questions and scores developed by staff. Each action or supporting action will be given a score on a scale from 0-10 (where 0=Not Applicable), which will directly relate to the proportion of points earned for this measure.

7.6. Jobs ~~and &~~ Economy

The jobs ~~and &~~ economy score is a composite score based on all of the Jobs and Economy subscores contained within the Implementation Plan, based on the questions and scores developed by staff. Each action or supporting action will be given a score on a scale from 0-10 (where 0=Not Applicable), which will directly relate to the proportion of points earned for this measure.

8.7. ~~Public Health~~

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~~The public health score is a composite score based on all of the Public Health subscores contained within the Implementation Plan, based on the questions and scores developed by staff. Each action or supporting action will be given a score on a scale from 0-10 (where 0=Not Applicable), which will directly relate to the proportion of points earned for this measure.~~

9.8. Resiliency

The resiliency score is a composite score based on all of the Resiliency subscores contained within the Implementation Plan, based on the questions and scores developed by staff. Each action or supporting action will be given a score on a scale from 0-10 (where 0=Not Applicable), which will directly relate to the proportion of points earned for this measure.

B. Types of Actions

As identified in the CAIP, actions are categorized into four distinct types, based on either their sequencing requirements or their relation to the measurable GHG emission reductions contained within the CAP. The categories of actions are as follows:

1. Preliminary

These are actions that must occur in order to staff to conduct the Foundational actions for each CAP measure. These actions receive the same prioritization score as the Foundational action that corresponds to it.

2. Foundational

These are actions that must take place in order to the City to reach the GHG emission targets set for each measure of the CAP. These measures should be scored using the Foundational Weights contained within the table under Part C of this section, and these actions should be prioritized over Next and Other actions, regardless of overall prioritization score.

3. Next

These are the actions which can only take place after the Foundational Actions take place, but which also have an impact on the GHG emission reduction targets for each measure. These actions should be scored using the Other Weights contained within the table under Part C of this section.

4. Other

These are all of the actions that are not directly tied to the measurable GHG emission reduction targets for each measure but which still provide overall support for the goals and targets of the measure. They are mostly referred to as supporting actions within the Climate Action Plan. These actions should be scored using the Other Weights contained within the table under Part C of this section

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CB. Scoring Weights

The following are the corresponding scoring weights in percentage for each of the CAIP prioritization measures:

Measures	Preliminary & Foundational Weights	Next & Other Weights
GHG Reduction	35	25
Feasibility	17	22
Equity	18	23
Air Quality	10	10
Public Health	13	13
Jobs & Economy	5	5
Resiliency	2	2
Total	100	100

Measures	Weights
GHG Reduction	-
Funding – Near Term	-
Feasibility	-
Equitable Implementation	-
Jobs	-
Air Quality	-
Public Health	-
Resiliency	-
Total	100

CD. Further Considerations and Updates

Review of the policy by the appropriate Council committee ~~shall~~should be performed ~~XX~~two years after implementation of this policy, and then subsequently in line with major updates to the CAP every five years to identify additional enhancements, update measures utilized, and update scoring weights as deemed necessary.