

# Environmental Quality Commission



## REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Date:** 5/21/2025  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** [Zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) – ID# 879 3070 9093 and  
City Hall Downtown Conference Room, 1st Floor  
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

Members of the public can listen to the meeting and participate using the following methods.

- How to participate in the meeting
  - Access the meeting, in-person, at the Downtown Conference Room
  - Access the meeting real-time online at:  
[Zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) –Meeting ID 879 3070 9093
  - Access the meeting real-time via telephone at:  
(669) 900-6833  
Meeting ID 879 3070 9093  
Press \*9 to raise hand to speak

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### Regular Session

#### A. Call To Order

#### B. Roll Call – Angiel, Hedley, Hernandez, Hill, Kissel, Chair McKenna, Meyer

#### C. Public Comment

Under “Public Comment,” the public may address the Commission on any subject not listed on the agenda. Each speaker may address the Commission once under public comment for a limit of three minutes. You are not required to provide your name or City of residence, but it is helpful. The Commission cannot act on items not listed on the agenda and, therefore, the Commission cannot respond to non-agenda issues brought up under public comment other than to provide general information.

#### D. Regular Business

- D1. Approve the April 16, 2025 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes ([Attachment](#))
- D2. Welcome new commissioner Nicole Angiel
- D3. Select Chair and Vice Chair

- D4. Discuss Climate Action Plan progress report for strategies four, five and six ([Attachment](#))
- D5. Provide recommendation on potential options for local building code amendments ([Attachment](#))
- D6. Discuss Environmental Quality Commission report out to City Council and the 2025-2026 work plan and form a subcommittee to develop the work plan ([Attachment](#))

**E. Reports and Announcements**

- E1. Reports and announcements from staff and Commissioners

**F. Informational Items**

- F1. 2024-25 Environmental Quality Commission work plan ([Attachment](#))

**G. Adjournment**

At every Regular Meeting of the Commission, in addition to the Public Comment period where the public shall have the right to address the Commission on any matters of public interest not listed on the agenda, members of the public have the right to directly address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the Chair, either before or during the Commission's consideration of the item.

At every Special Meeting of the Commission, members of the public have the right to directly address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the Chair, either before or during consideration of the item.

For appeal hearings, appellant and applicant shall each have 10 minutes for presentations.

If you challenge any of the items listed on this agenda in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Menlo Park at, or before, the public hearing.

Any writing that is distributed to a majority of the Commission by any person in connection with an agenda item is a public record (subject to any exemption under the Public Records Act) and is available by request by emailing the city clerk at [jaherren@menlopark.gov](mailto:jaherren@menlopark.gov). Persons with disabilities, who require auxiliary aids or services in attending or participating in Commission meetings, may call the City Clerk's Office at 650-330-6620.

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# Environmental Quality Commission



## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

**Date:** 4/16/2025  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Teleconference and  
City Hall Downtown Conference Room, 1st Floor  
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park. CA 94025

**A. Call To Order**

Vice Chair McKenna called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**B. Roll Call**

**Present:** Hedley, Hernandez, Hill, Vice Chair McKenna, Meyer, Pelegri-Llopart  
**Absent:** Kissel  
**Staff:** Sustainability Manager Rachael Londer, Management Analyst II Liz Tapia

**C. Public Comment**

- Brian Schmidt spoke in support of a Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) webinar and the Love our Earth Festival April 26.

**D. Regular Business**

D1. Approve the March 19, 2025 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes (Attachment)

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Hedley/ Pelegri-Llopart), to approve the March 19, 2025 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes, passed 6-0-1 (Kissel absent).

D2. Discuss Climate Action Plan progress report (Attachment)

Chair McKenna introduced the item.

Sustainability Manager Rachael Londer made the presentation (Attachment).

The Commission received clarification on off-road and on-road transportation, types of transportation factored into transportation emissions and outreach strategies and expanded qualification for the Home Upgrade program.

- Brian Schmidt spoke in support of prioritizing Climate Action Plan (CAP) strategy No. 1 and building code amendments, and on concerns related to Assembly Bill (AB) 306.

The Commission discussed including the following recommendations on the CAP progress report: CAP strategy #1:

- Expand greenhouse gas (GHG) emission data to include tracking embodied emissions.
- Explore tracking real kilowatt-hours used for both gas and electric consumption.
- Expand CAP goal No.1 to measure total kilowatt-hours in addition to full building electrification.
- Add dates to the CAP implementation timeline on presentation to City Council.

- Explore creating an online tracker of key metrics to see progress in real-time.
- Explore using state grant funds to offer solar and batteries.
- Report future next steps to ensure City will reach CAP strategy #1 goals.
- Monitor AB 306 and determine a plan for alternative ways to encourage electrification.
- Look at other pathways the City can engage residents to make the switch from gas to electric and increase awareness.
- Utilize on-site collateral and present in-person at the Belle Haven Community Campus (BHCC) and Belle Haven Child Development Center to increase participation.
- Make residents aware of potential cost savings and incentives of switching from gas to electric.

CAP strategies No. 2 and No. 3:

- Explore a City sponsored e-bike loaner, benefits, and education program.
- Explore expanding Waymo into the City.
- Encourage use of Caltrain and share comfort benefits like less noise and Wi-Fi.
- Expand tracking to electric vehicle (EV), e-bike and e-scooter sales and registration.
- Increase education and outreach on EV benefits.
- Explore ways to increase EV charging in multifamily communities.

Sustainability Manager Rachael Londer re-opened public comment.

- Brian Schmidt spoke in support of Waymo expanding to Menlo Park.

D3. Discuss state, federal and additional grant opportunities (Attachment)

Chair McKenna introduced the item.

Rincon Consultants Senior Climate Planner Anna Yip made the presentation (Attachment).

The Commission received clarification on the definition of disadvantaged and severely disadvantaged, funding areas and funding categories.

The Commission discussed applying for building electrification grants, preparing for applications by working with community based organizations, creating specific Environmental Quality Commission ad hoc subcommittees for specific grants, prioritizing funding opportunities for Belle Haven, working with neighboring cities like East Palo Alto and Redwood City, incorporating the Environmental Justice Element, leveraging matching funds from potential partners or local tax dollars, using funds to convert turf fields to natural grass, utilizing a grant writing consultant and timeline for fund allocation.

## **E. Reports and Announcements**

E1. Reports and announcements from staff and Commissioners

Sustainability Manager Rachael Londer reported out on the April 26 Love our Earth Festival, the April 29 City Council meeting to appoint two new Environmental Quality Commissioners and the May 8 building code amendment workshop at the Belle Haven Community Campus.

Vice Chair Pelegri-Llopart reported out on stepping down from the Environmental Quality Commission and on PCEs distributed energy resource strategy.

Commissioner Hill reported out on San Francisco Climate Week.

Chair McKenna reported out on Healthy Homes event May 10.

Commissioner Hedley reported out on comments received by the Commission about trees and safety relating to accessory dwelling units and construction.

**F. Informational Items**

**F1. 2024-25 Environmental Quality Commission work plan (Attachment)**

The Commission received clarification on the presentation date for an item on the climate adaptation plan.

**G. Adjournment**

Vice Chair McKenna adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Management Analyst II Liz Tapia



# Climate Action Plan progress report – Strategies #1, #2 and #3

Rachael Londer, Sustainability Manager



# Agenda

- Background
- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions
- CAP strategy #1
  - Permit fee waiver
  - Home Upgrade Program
  - PCE programs
- CAP strategies #2 and #3
  - City efforts
  - PCE programs





# Background

- Climate action has been a top City Council priority since 2020.
- In July 2020, the City adopted the 2030 Climate Action Plan (CAP) with a goal to be carbon neutral by 2030.
- Annually, sustainability staff provide City Council a progress report on CAP implementation progress.
- The last progress report was presented to City Council Aug. 13, 2024.
- On Aug. 27, 2025 City Council adopted a resolution to amend the 2030 climate action plan to include an implementation scope of work for 2025-2030.





# Background

## CAP update process

EQC provided  
recommendation for  
Scope of Work CAP  
implementation

CAP 2025-2030 Scope  
of Work  
Implementation  
adoption

CAP Progress Report  
and GHG Emission  
Inventory to City Council  
FY24-25

CAP Progress  
Report to City  
Council

CAP 2025-2030  
Scope of Work  
Implementation

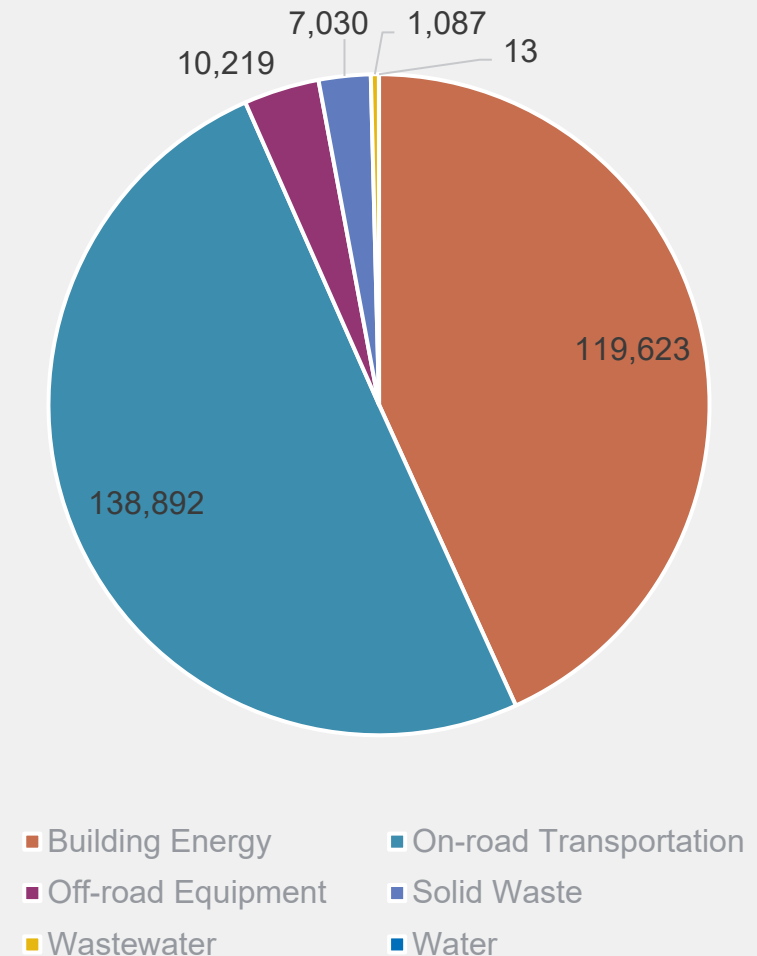


# 2023 GHG Emissions reductions

2005 is the baseline year for GHG emissions, Menlo Park's GHG emissions totaled 350,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2</sub>e)

Sector	2005	2021	2023	Total reduction
Building Energy	213,855	121,573	119,623	44%
On-road Transportation	143,136	142,569	138,892	2.5%
Off-road Transportation	10,370	9,465	10,219	1.5%
Solid Waste	53,987	7,749	7,030	86%
Wastewater	-	1,077	1,087	-
Water	-	124	13	89%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>379,600*</b>	<b>282,558</b>	<b>276,866</b>	<b>27%*</b>

\*Measure is above baseline, totals are skewed





# CAP strategy #1

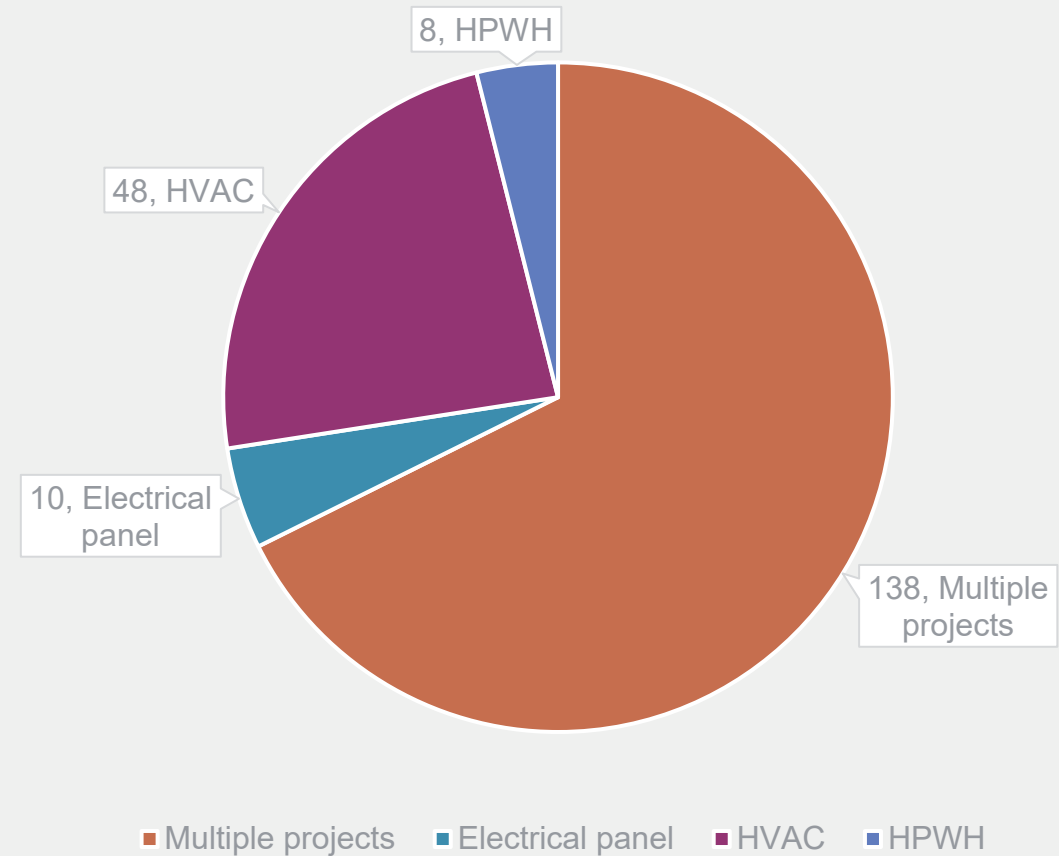
- Explore policy/program options to convert 95% of existing buildings to all-electric by 2030.
- Implementation scope of work (short term and ongoing):
  - Adopt pre-wiring requirements for existing buildings in the short term and evaluate performance requirements both new and existing buildings during the 2025 code cycle adoption
  - Develop additional program options to disperse California Energy Commission (CEC) grant funds including opportunities for residents who are renting
  - Continue to evaluate and enhance a permit streamlining program
  - Require all-electric construction for affordable housing built on City owned land



# CAP Strategy #1

- Permit fee waiver
  - Total permits 742
  - Total funds waived \$276,012
- Fiscal year 2024-2025
  - 204 permits
  - \$87,029 waived

Electrification Projects FY24-25





# CAP Strategy #1

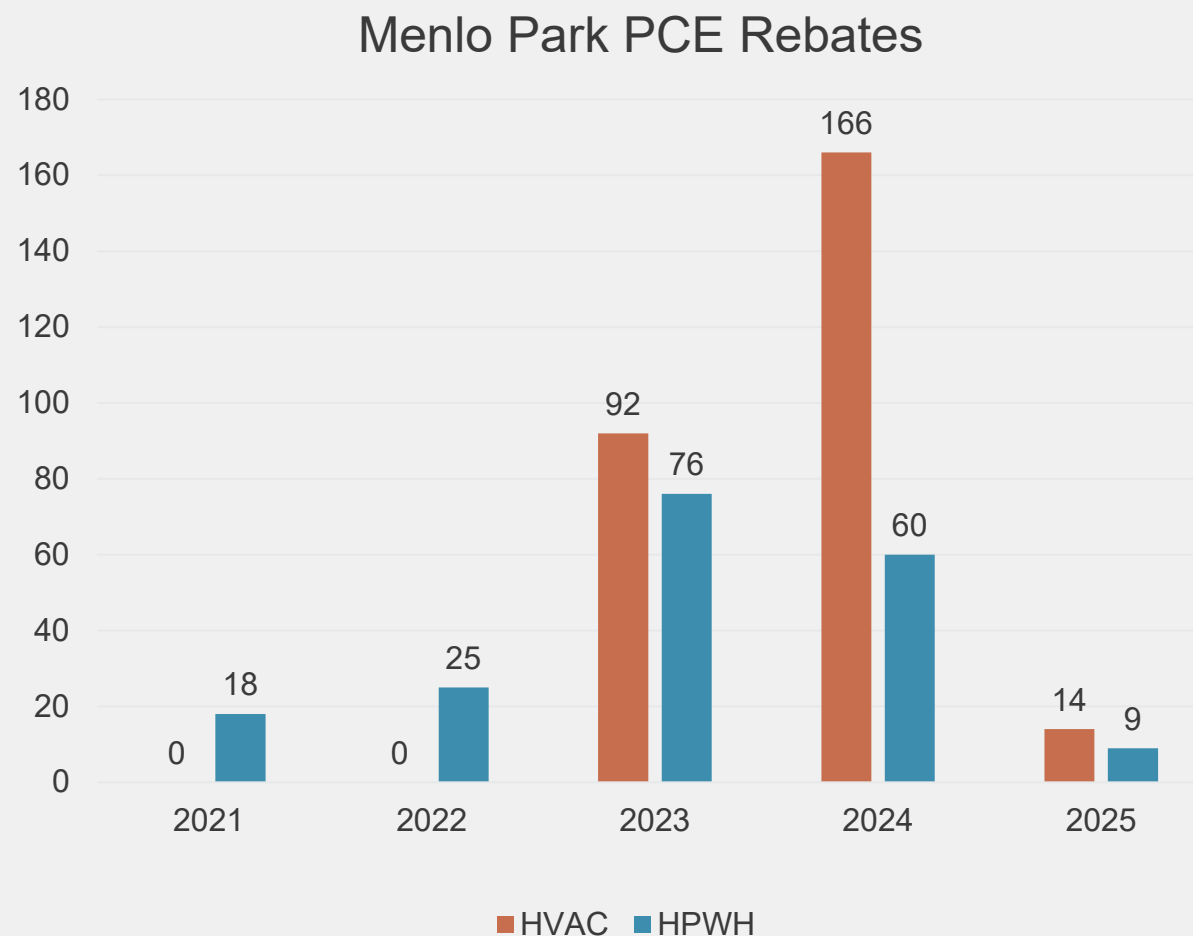
- Home Upgrade Program
  - Funded by California Energy Commission (CEC) grant
  - The City executed an agreement for \$2.21 million with Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) to electrify homes in Belle Haven

Metric	Number completed (as of March 31)
Applications received (Menlo Park form)	53
Scheduled assessments	34
Signed participation agreements	18
Installations completed	5
Fully electrified	2



# CAP strategy #1

- PCE rebates in Menlo Park
  - Heat pump heating, ventilation and air conditioning system (HVAC): 272
  - Heat pump water heater: 188
  - Total rebates: 460





## CAP strategies #2 and #3

- CAP #2 set citywide goal for increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales; and #3: Expand access to EV charging for multifamily and commercial properties
- Implementation scope of work (short term and ongoing):
  - Inform stakeholders of current incentives and benefits
    - a. Promoting existing information on EVs, affordability, and emphasizing current incentives
    - b. Evaluating potential partners for Level 1 & Level 2 charging



# CAP strategies #2 and #3

- EV Charging grant from MTC award for \$2.3 million
- PCE Programs in Menlo Park

	2024 Calendar Year	Since program inception	Estimated GHG savings	Total project or incentive value
Number of ports installed in Menlo Park (multifamily)	63	102 (since 2019)	400 MTCO <sub>2</sub> e	\$425K
Number of ports installed in Menlo Park (commercial)	0	20 (since 2019)	140 MTCO <sub>2</sub> e	\$90K
Number of e-bike incentives issued	13	65 (since 2021)	50 MTCO <sub>2</sub> e	\$49K
Number of EV incentives issued	12	47 (since 2019)	250 MTCO <sub>2</sub> e	\$110K





# Discussion

# Proposition 4:

*California's Climate Bond*



# Introduction to Proposition 4

- \$10 billion bond for climate resilience initiatives
  - Approved by California voters in November 2024 (60% yes, 40% no)
  - Statewide coalition of around 180 organizations.
  - Themes for proposed project areas:
    - Water Resources
    - Wildfire Prevention
    - Coastal Resilience
    - Biodiversity
    - Clean Air
    - Urban Greening





# Introduction to Proposition 4

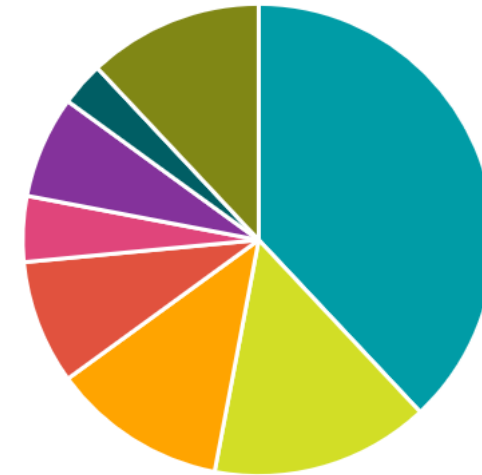
- Roughly 30 state entities will oversee the funding
- Dedicated funding for tribes, farmworker groups and vulnerable communities
  - 40% designated for disadvantaged communities
  - 10% designated for severely disadvantaged communities
- Focus on multi -benefit projects; leveraged funds
- CA Natural Resources Agency will report annually on status



## Key Funding Categories

- Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood and Water Resilience \$3.8 billion
- Wildfire and Forest Resilience: \$1.5 billion
- Coastal Resilience: \$1.2 billion
- Clean Air: \$850 million
- Extreme Heat Mitigation: \$450 million
- Park Creation and Outdoor Access: \$700 million
- Climate Smart Agriculture: \$300 million
- Biodiversity Protection & NatureBased Climate Solutions: \$1.2 Billion

\$10 Billion



- Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood and Water Resilience
- Wildfire and Forest Resilience
- Costal Resilience
- Clean Air
- Extreme heat Mitigation
- Parks and Outdoor Access
- Agriculture
- Biodiversity

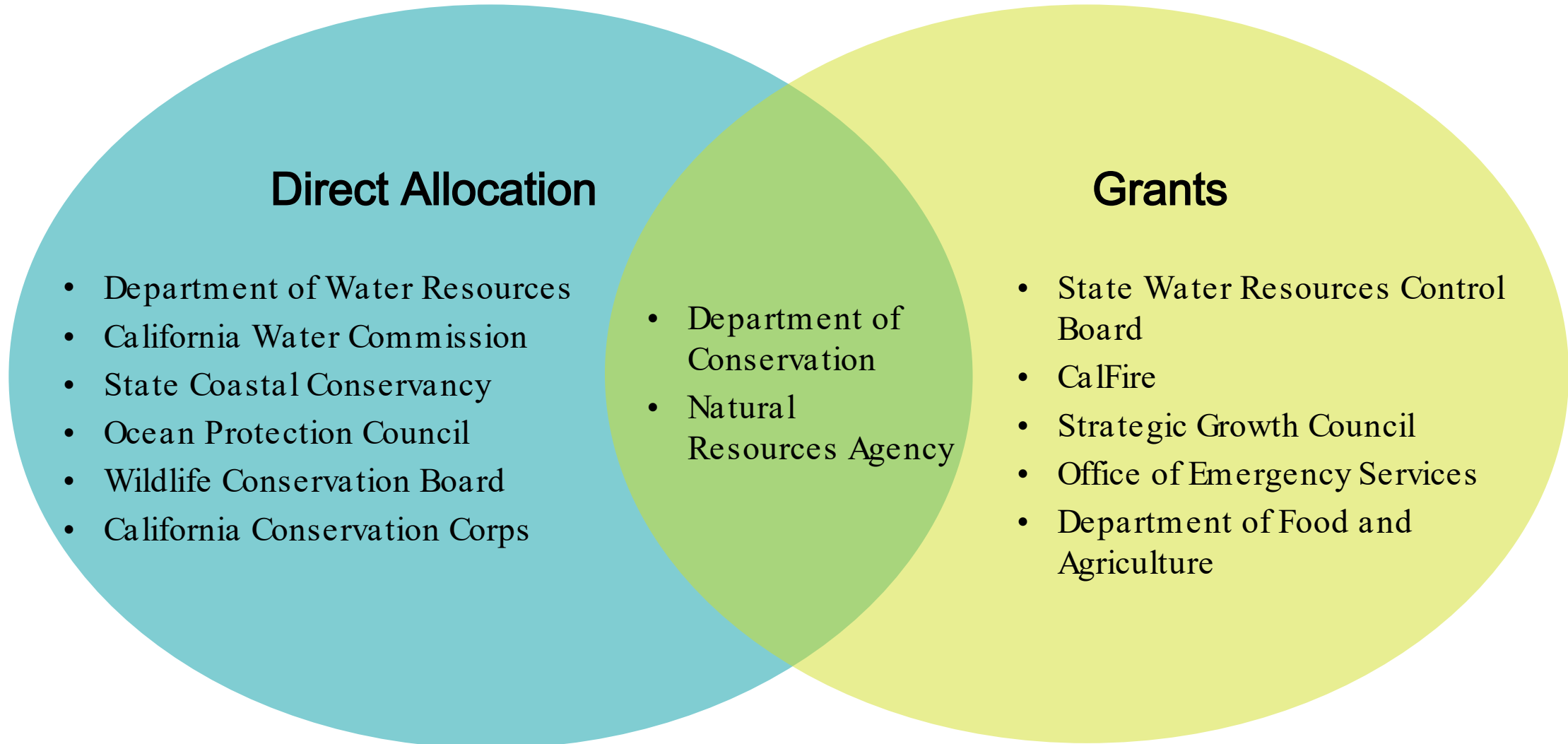
# Prop 4 Funding

## Governor's Proposition 4 Proposal: Multiyear Spending Plan

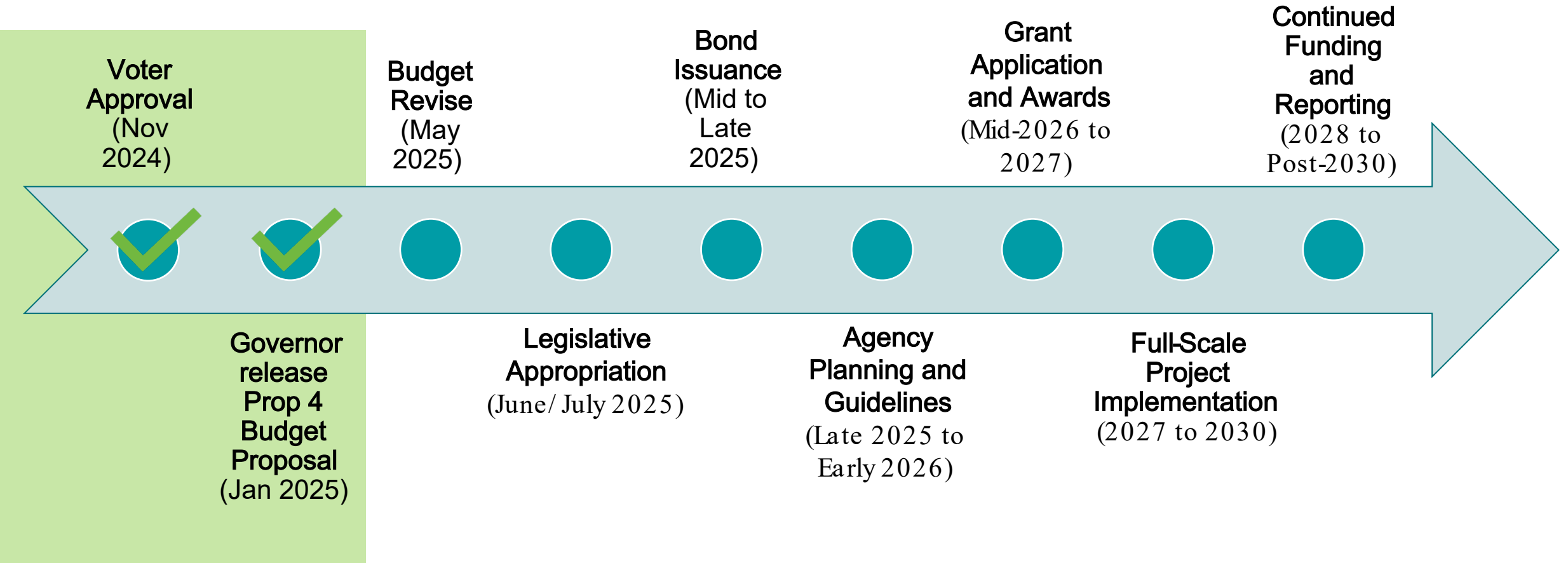
(In Millions)

Purpose	Bond Total	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29 Through 2039-40	Pending
Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood, and Water	\$3,800	\$1,074	\$972	\$819	\$925	\$10
Wildfire and Forest Resilience	1,500	325	376	214	496	89
Coastal Resilience	1,200	173	129	190	708	—
Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions	1,200	286	136	165	512	101
Clean Energy	850	275	229	3	21	323
Park Creation and Outdoor Access	700	286	117	42	23	231
Extreme Heat Mitigation	450	102	172	152	24	—
Climate Smart Agriculture	300	134	84	15	7	60
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$2,655</b>	<b>\$2,215</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>	<b>\$2,716</b>	<b>\$814</b>

# California Agencies Receiving Funding



# Estimated Timeline for Fund Availability





# Applying for Grant Funding

- Granting Agencies want to make this process easy and efficient
  - Agencies working together to improve coordination, remove silos, combine funding streams to get *multi-benefit projects* funded
  - Rolling applications, simple initial applications, briefing calls available
  - Jurisdictions can apply for multiple grants
  - Effort to reach new grantees
    - 40% designated for disadvantaged communities
    - 10% designated for severely disadvantaged communities
- Urgency to distribute funds
  - 1/3 of Clean Energy funds will be allocated in 2025 -26
  - Uncertainty of federal funding
  - Worsening environmental conditions



# Staying Involved

- California Climate Bond: Grant Programs Feedback Survey
  - Share your experiences working with grants
  - Survey open until April 18<sup>th</sup>
  - [Take the survey here!](#)
- Climate Bond Updates Listserv
  - Join CNRA email listserv to receive the latest info on the bond
  - [Join the listerv here!](#)
- Coastal Conservancy Climate Bond Webinar
  - Hosted a webinar about funding opportunities on March 17
  - [Watch the recording here!](#)



## Useful Links

- Read Full Text of Enacted Legislation [here.](#)
- Read about Water, Drought and Flood funding [here.](#)
- Read about Wildfire and Forest Resilience funding [here.](#)
- Read about Nature -Based Solutions and Biodiversity funding [here.](#)
- Read about Coastal Resilience funding [here.](#)
- Read about Sustainable Agriculture, Farms and Working Lands funding [here.](#)

# References

- "California Prop 4: Funding Statewide Projects to Address Climate Change." KALW, 2024, [www.kalw.org](http://www.kalw.org). Accessed 6 Dec. 2024.
- "California 2024 Climate Bond (Proposition 4)." Ballotpedia, 2024, [www.ballotpedia.org](http://www.ballotpedia.org). Accessed 6 Dec. 2024.
- "Proposition 4: The Climate Bond Measure." The Nature Conservancy, 2024, [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org). Accessed 6 Dec. 2024.
- "Text of Proposed Laws." Official Voter Information Guide, California Secretary of State, 2024, pp. 75 -94. [1]
- State of California. *Proposition 4: Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024.* Official Ballot Text. California Secretary of State, 2024. [2]
- California State Treasurer's Office. *Bond Accountability and Issuance Practices.* California State Treasurer, 2023, [www.treasurer.ca.gov](http://www.treasurer.ca.gov). [2]
- California Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO). *Understanding California's Water Bond Measures: Historical Overview and Implementation.* Legislative Analyst's Office, 2023, [lao.ca.gov](http://lao.ca.gov). [2]
- California Natural Resources Agency. *Bond Measure Project Guidelines for Propositions 1 and 68.* California Natural Resources Agency, 2021, [resources.ca.gov](http://resources.ca.gov). [2]
- California Department of Water Resources. *Integrated Regional Water Management Program Guidelines.* Department of Water Resources, 2023, [water.ca.gov](http://water.ca.gov). [2]
- California State Water Resources Control Board. *Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Annual Report 2022.* State Water Resources Control Board, 2022, [www.waterboards.ca.gov](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov). [2]
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. *Wildfire Resilience Grant Opportunities Overview.* CalFire, 2022, [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov). [2]
- Proposition 1 (2014): *Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014.* California Legislative Analyst's Office, 2014, [lao.ca.gov](http://lao.ca.gov). [2]
- Proposition 68 (2018): *California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.* Official Voter Information Guide, California Secretary of State, 2018, [voterguide.sos.ca.gov](http://voterguide.sos.ca.gov). [2]
- Proposition 4 Spending Plan (2025): Legislative Analyst's Office. The 2025-26 Budget. <https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4958>

# Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood and Water Resilience (\$3.8 B)

Agency	Total Allocated Funds	Projects
State Water Resource Control Board	\$610 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grants for safe drinking water</li> <li>- Groundwater contamination prevention</li> <li>- Water reuse and recycling; stormwater management</li> <li>- Crossborder water quality (Tijuana and New Rivers)</li> </ul>
Department of Water Resources & Natural Resource Agency	\$461.25 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Groundwater storage and recharge</li> <li>- Flood management and stormwater control</li> <li>- Regional water conveyance repairs</li> <li>- Integrated water management</li> </ul>
Department of Conservation	\$200 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Groundwater sustainability projects</li> </ul>
California Water Commission	\$75 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supplemental grants for inflationary cost adjustments on water storage projects approved under WSIP</li> </ul>
Department of Water Resources & State Water Resource Control Board	\$1.1 billion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flood risk and stormwater management</li> </ul>
DWR, RMC, SMMC, SCC, CNRA, WCB	\$605 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protection and restoration of rivers, lakes, and streams; watershed resilience</li> </ul>
Wildlife Control Board	\$150 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Streamflow enhancement program; habitat enhancement and restoration program</li> </ul>
Various Conservancies	\$1 billion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Other</li> </ul>

# Wildfire and Forest Resilience (\$1.5 B)

Agency	Total Allocated Funds	Projects
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire)	\$588 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wildfire prevention, forest health, fuel reduction</li> <li>- Workforce housing and training for wildfire workers</li> <li>- Tribal wildfire resilience programs</li> </ul>
Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)	\$135 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wildfire mitigation grants</li> <li>- Structure hardening for fire resistance</li> <li>- Smoke mitigation programs</li> </ul>
Department of Conservation (DOC)	\$235 million	- Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program, Infrastructure for vegetative waste
Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks)	\$200 million	- Forest health and watershed projects
Various Conservancies	\$270 million	- Regional projects, watershed improvement, forest health, biomass utilization, chaparral and forest restoration, and workforce development, reducing risk from electricity transmission
California Conservation Corps	\$50 million	- Demonstrated jobs projects
Transportation Commission	\$26 million	- Watershed improvement, forest health, biomass utilization, chaparral and forest restoration, and workforce development



# Coastal Resilience (\$1.2 B)

Agency	Total Allocated Funds	Projects
State Coastal Conservancy	\$840 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coastal resilience projects</li> <li>- San Francisco Bay programs</li> <li>- Coastal/flood management for developed shoreline</li> <li>- Dam removal and water infrastructure</li> </ul>
California Ocean Protection Council	\$135 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conservation of marine wildlife</li> <li>- Restoration of kelp forests, eelgrass meadows, and oyster beds</li> <li>- Ocean current mapping infrastructure</li> </ul>
California Sea Level Rise Mitigation and Adaptation Act of 2021	\$75 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sea level rise mitigation projects, adaptation strategies</li> </ul>
Department of Parks and Recreation	\$50 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sea level rise adaptation in coastal state parks, recreational access improvements</li> </ul>
Natural Resources Agency and Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$75 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Island ecosystem protection, climate-ready fisheries management, kelp restoration</li> </ul>
Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$25 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hatchery upgrades and expansions, conservation hatcheries for Central Valley Salmon</li> </ul>

# Clean Air (\$850 M)

Agency	Total Allocated Funds	Project
TBD	\$325 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public financing of clean energy transmission projects that are necessary to meet the state's clean energy goals to reduce or offset ratepayer costs associated with the public benefits of transmission projects.</li> </ul>
California Energy Commission	\$475 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Construction of port facilities</b> Building publicly owned facilities for manufacturing, assembling, staging, and integrating components for offshore wind generation.</li> <li>- <b>Expansion and improvement of port infrastructure</b> Enhancing public port infrastructure to support vessels involved in the installation, maintenance, and operation of offshore wind generation.</li> <li>- <b>Upgrades to port facilities</b> General improvements to existing port facilities.</li> </ul>
California Energy Commission	\$50 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Demand Side Grid Support Program (load reduction and backup generation efforts to increase electric grid reliability during extreme weather events)</li> </ul>



# Extreme Heat Mitigation (\$450 M)

Agency	Total Allocated Funding	Projects
Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)	\$60 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Establishing community resilience hubs (e.g., cooling centers).</li><li>- Clean air and emergency power facilities.</li></ul>
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire)	\$50 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Urban forestry projects to expand tree cover and mitigate urban heat impacts.</li></ul>
Natural Resource Agency	\$100 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- For urban greening programs</li></ul>
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation's Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program	\$50 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- To reduce impact of extreme heat and urban island effect.</li></ul>
Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation	\$150 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Transformative Climate Communities Program</li></ul>
California Department of Food and Agriculture	\$40 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fairground updates</li></ul>

# Park Creation and Outdoor Access (\$700 M)

Agency	Total Allocated Funds	Projects
Dept. of Parks and Recreation	\$200 Million	- For the creation, expansion, and renovation of safe neighborhood parks in park-poor neighborhoods
Natural Resource Agency	\$100 Million	- For the protection, restoration, and enhancement, of the natural resource values of the state park system & expansion of recreational opportunities/ public access to trails
Dept. of Parks and Recreation	\$175 Million	- To address the backlog of deferred maintenance
Natural Resource Agency	\$200 Million	- For the reduction of climate impacts on disadvantaged communities & expansion of recreation opportunities
Natural Resource Agency	\$25 Million	- Nature and climate education

# Biodiversity Protection & Nature -Based Climate Solutions (\$1.2 B)

Agency	Total Allocated Funds	Projects
Wildlife Conservation Board	\$870 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Streamflow enhancement</li> <li>- Salmon habitat restoration</li> <li>- Water rights acquisition for habitat conservation</li> </ul>
Various Conservancy Groups	\$320 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To reduce the risks of climate change impacts upon communities, fish and wildlife, and natural resources, and increase public access</li> </ul>
Natural Resources Agency	\$10 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tribal NatureBased Solutions Program</li> </ul>

# Climate Smart Agriculture (\$300 M)

Agency	Total Allocated Funds	Projects
Dept. of Food and Ag.'s Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation	\$105 Million	- For improvements in climate resilience of agricultural lands and ecosystems
Dept. of Food and Agriculture	\$20 Million	- To funding invasive species projects. (priority will go to projects that restore biodiversity and ecosystem health.)
Dept. of Conservation	\$45 Million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For the protection, restoration, conservation, and enhancement of farmland and rangeland.</li> <li>- Increasing land access and tenure</li> </ul>
Dept. of Food and Agriculture	\$90 Million	- For grants that benefit small and medium-sized farms, socially disadvantaged farmers, beginning farmers or ranchers, and veteran farmers or ranchers, and increase the sustainability of agricultural infrastructure and facilities that support food systems, and increase market access
California Vanpool Authority, California Dept. of Education, Dept. of Community Services and Development	\$40 Million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deployment of vanpool vehicles and related facilities</li> <li>- Research farms at postsecondary education institutions</li> <li>- Low-Income Weatherization Program—farmworker housing</li> </ul>



# Climate Action Plan progress report – strategies No. 4, 5 and 6

Presented by sustainability staff

# Agenda



- Background
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions overview
- Review of CAP strategy No. 4
- Review of CAP strategy No. 5
- Review of CAP strategy No. 6



# Background

- Climate action has been a top City Council priority since 2020.
- In July 2020, the City adopted the 2030 Climate Action Plan (CAP) with a goal to be carbon neutral by 2030.
- Annually, sustainability staff provide City Council a progress report on CAP implementation progress.
- The last progress report was presented to City Council Aug. 13, 2024.
- On Aug. 27, 2025 City Council adopted a resolution to amend the 2030 climate action plan to include an implementation scope of work for 2025-2030.

# Background



## CAP update process

**August 2023 – May 2024:**  
EQC provided  
recommendation for Scope  
of Work CAP implementation

**August 27, 2024:**  
CAP 2025-2030 Scope  
of Work Implementation  
adoption

**August 2025:**  
CAP Progress Report and  
GHG Emission Inventory  
to City Council FY24-25

**August 13, 2024:**  
CAP Progress  
Report to City  
Council

**2025:** CAP 2025-  
2030 Scope of Work  
Implementation

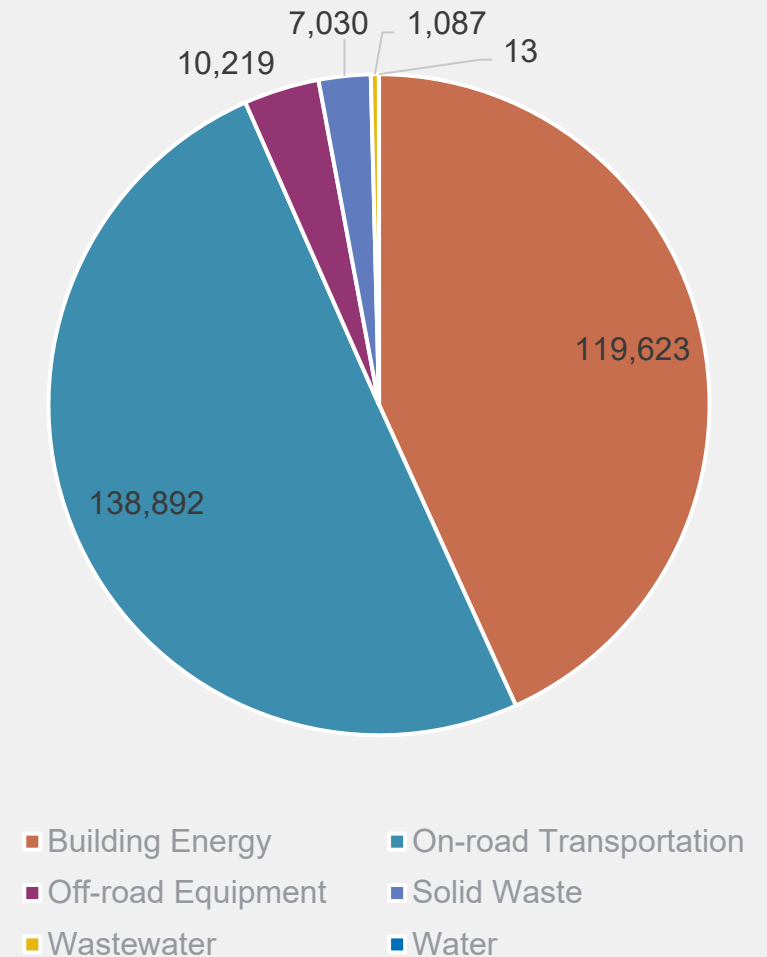


# 2023 GHG emissions reductions

2005 is the baseline year for GHG emissions, Menlo Park's GHG emissions totaled 350,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2</sub>e)

Sector	2005	2021	2023	Total reduction
Building Energy	213,855	121,573	119,623	44%
On-road Transportation	143,136	142,569	138,892	2.5%
Off-road Transportation	10,370	9,465	10,219	1.5%
Solid Waste	53,987	7,749	7,030	86%
Wastewater	-	1,077	1,087	-
Water	-	124	13	89%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>379,600*</b>	<b>282,558</b>	<b>276,866</b>	<b>27%*</b>

\*Measure is above baseline, totals are skewed



## CAP strategy No. 4

- Reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% or an amount recommended by the Complete Streets Commission.
- Implementation scope of work (short term and ongoing):

Description
Continue to implement the Transportation Master Plan to build connected and safer multimodal transportation networks that make walking, bicycling and transit viable for more trips locally and regionally
Apply and update transportation demand management (TDM) requirements to help produce development that is not dependent on single occupant vehicles
Coordinate bike/pedestrian improvements with planned street resurfacing
Update the Transportation Master Plan GIS dashboard to quantify GHG impacts of planned and completed VMT reduction projects (bike lanes, sidewalks)

# CAP strategy No. 4

- Implementation scope of work continued (short term and ongoing):

## Description

Continue to operate programs, including the shuttle program and Safe Routes to School (including public, charter and private schools) to enhance transportation options for students, commuters and transit dependent populations

Provide educational and engagement opportunities to support cyclists of all ages

Continue to implement Housing Element policies that support transit oriented development

Coordinate with C/CAG to remove cross-jurisdictional barriers to regional active transportation planning and infrastructure projects

## CAP strategy No. 4

In 2024, the public works department – capital improvement program and transportation divisions:

- Completed 2024 street maintenance project
  - Included traffic calming enhancements
  - Re-striped / enhanced bike lanes on Willow Road and Valparaiso Avenue
- Completed the pilot of the Middle Avenue bike lanes
  - Construction for the permanent installation was awarded and is planned for June through August

# CAP strategy No. 4



- 2025-2026 public works priority projects
  - Middle Avenue Complete Streets – pavement resurfacing and the implementation of traffic calming elements and bike lanes, construction this summer
  - Electrical Vehicle Chargers at City Hall and Corporation Yard, in design
  - Coleman-Ringwood bicycle lane and traffic calming pilot will be built this summer
  - Quiet Zone is in final design phase
  - Middlefield Road Resurfacing bike, pedestrian and signal improvements in planning phase
  - Will begin work on a grant to look at our Caltrain Station and improving multi-modal access

# CAP strategy No. 4

- In 2024, our Shuttle Program performed:
  - Crosstown: 2,600 runs between Belle Haven Community Campus and Sharon Heights Shopping Center
  - Marsh: 1,820 runs between Caltrain and Marsh Road business parks
  - Willow: 1,820 runs between Caltrain and Willow Road business parks
  - Shopper's: 208 service days providing door-to-door with service to Redwood City, Palo Alto, and Menlo Park
- In 2024, our Safe Routes Program:
  - Provided education and outreach support to 12 public schools, 12 private schools, 4 school districts
  - Held 2 bike repair and educational events this school year
  - Held 1 helmet giveaway
  - Held 4 task force meetings held
  - Helped promote and support schools for International Walk to School Day, Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day, Crossing Guard Appreciation Week

## CAP strategy No. 5:

Eliminate fossil fuel use from municipal (City) operations by 2030

■ Implementation scope of work (short term and ongoing):

Description
Continue monitoring grant opportunities and prioritize capital projects that leverage grant funding
Explore electrification project financing options beyond Capital Improvement Program (CIP) allocations
Conduct a fleet rightsizing study to identify the number and type of vehicles needed for fleet operations and zero-emission alternatives
Develop or purchase an energy management software/dashboard that integrates utility billing/usage data with existing City asset management software
Establish facility electrification prioritization criteria and continue to develop and complete projects to electrify all city-owned buildings by 2030



# CAP strategy No. 5:

## ■ Implementation scope of work (short term and ongoing):

### Description

Continue to use renewable diesel and replace vehicles with zero-emission options to decarbonize the fleet by 2030 based on mileage, age, downtime for repairs, mandated emission regulations and an assessment of all vehicles and equipment with readily available Evs

Update the municipal GHG inventory

Capture emissions from Bedwell Bayfront landfill flare

Make data accessible to show the City's ability to reach its goal by 2030 (e.g. countdown to carbon neutrality, showing percentage of equipment electrified)

Explore creating additional microgrid opportunities to enhance community resiliency and preparedness

# CAP strategy No. 5:

- Implementation scope of work (short term and ongoing):

## Description

Explore and install equipment for vehicle-to-building (V2B) bidirectional fleet charging

Develop programs and projects to eliminate the remaining greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the municipal inventory beyond building and fleet electrification including implementing programs in compliance with Senate Bill 1383 to increase organic collection services, establish food recovery programs, and purchase recycled organics products.

Continue to purchase and deploy zero-emission landscape equipment (ZELE) used by city staff and contractors

# CAP strategy No. 5

- Major reductions credited to the electrification of the Belle Haven Community Campus (including pool heating)

FIGURE 2: 2019 EMISSIONS PRODUCTION BY CATEGORY

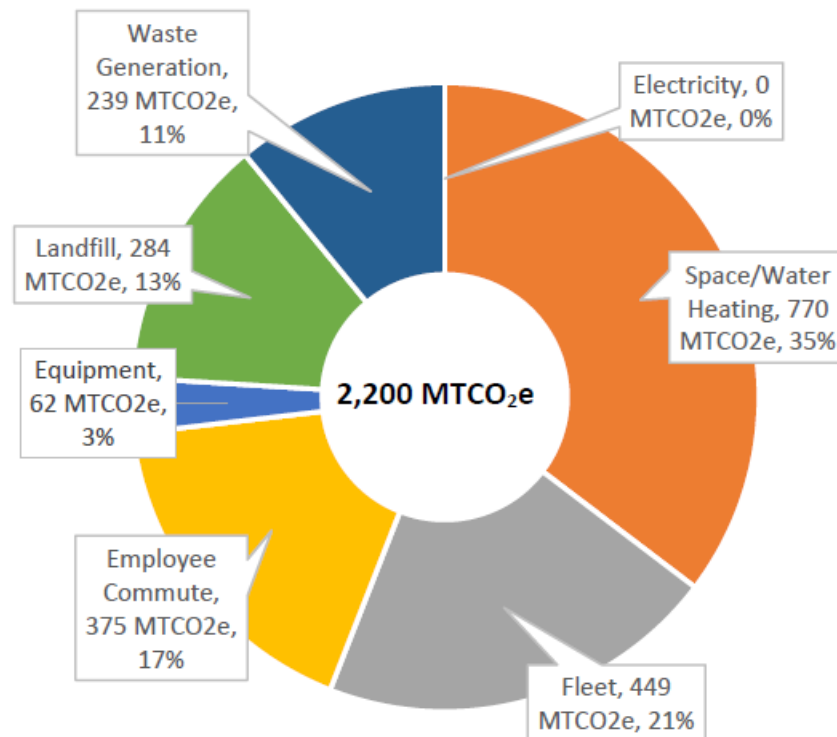
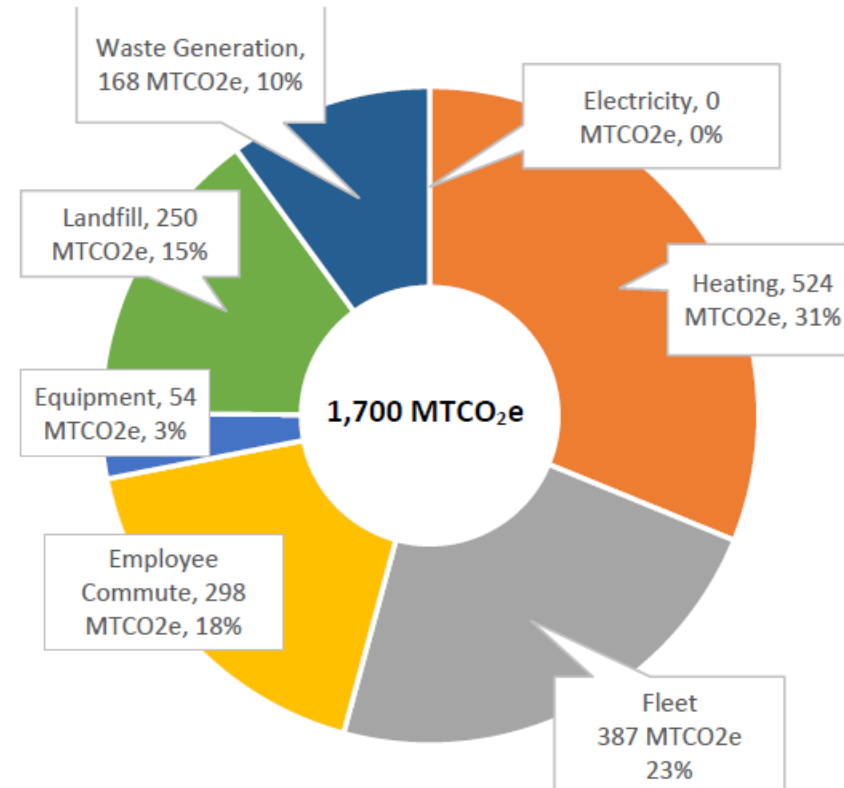


FIGURE 3: 2024 EMISSIONS PRODUCTION BY CATEGORY



# CAP strategy No. 5

- City Hall and Burgess Pool shower water heaters replaced with heat pumps (\$140K value, \$0 spent)
- BHCCDC, Little House, MCC, MP Library, and Rosener House received heat pumps in 2023 (\$110K value, \$0 spent)
- There are only two remaining City-owned facilities with gas water heaters!





# CAP strategy No. 5

- Belle Haven Community Campus
  - LEED Platinum certification
  - Sustainable San Mateo County Green Building honorable mention



Photo credit: Probono Photo Sustainable San Mateo County 2025 Awards Dinner Auction

# CAP No. 5



- Reroofing ahead of solar installations at:



Belle Haven Child Development  
Center (BHCDC)



City Hall



Menlo Park Library



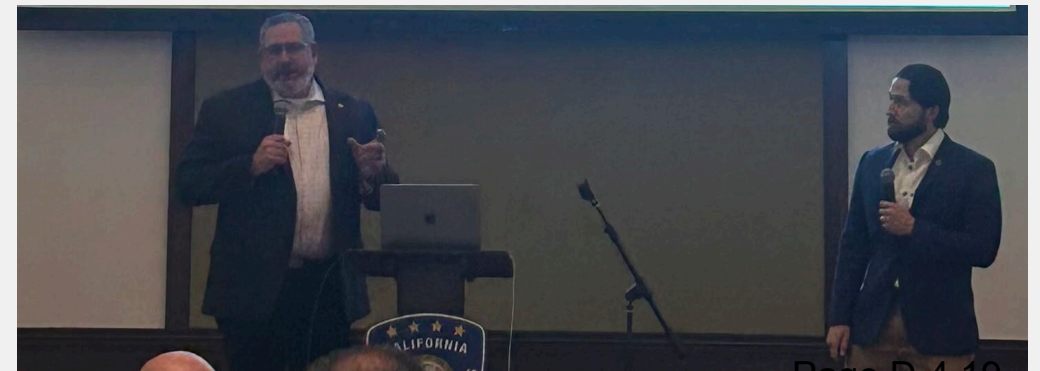
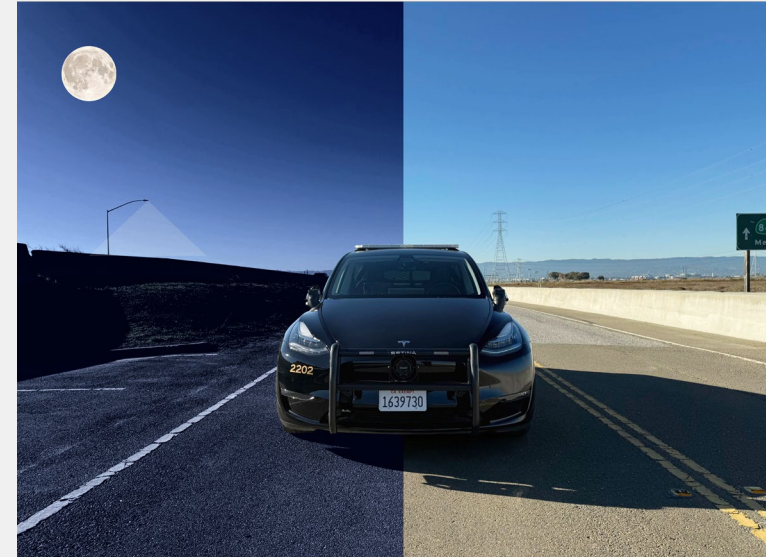
# CAP strategy No. 5

- EV Charging infrastructure
  - Awarded \$2.3M MTC grant
  - New project manager on board
  - RFP released for design
  - Actively coordinating with PG&E for fleet program
- Plans for:
  - 40 new fleet charging ports
    - 3/5 120kW+ DCFC installed
    - 4/16 40kW DCFC installed
    - 18/18 19.2kW L2 installed
  - 28 new public charging ports
    - 4 120kW DCFC downtown install
    - 36/49 19.2kW L2 Burgess Campus installed



# CAP strategy No. 5

- EV Patrol Pilot
  - Shared findings at California Police Chief Association conference in Irvine





# CAP strategy No. 5



## ■ Upcoming priorities: Fleet

- Fleet purchases
  - EVs for most duty cycles
  - Next PD patrol test iteration: BlazerEV & F150 Lightning
- Fleet rightsizing study
- EV charging infrastructure

## ■ Upcoming priorities: Facilities

- GovPV
  - Finalize solar PV installation at Belle Haven Child Development Center (BHCDC), Burgess Pool, City Hall and the Menlo Park Library
- BHCDC electrification
- Burgess pool electrification study
- Arrillaga Recreation Center electrification
- Lighting replacements

# CAP strategy No. 6

- Develop a climate adaption plan to protect the community from sea level rise and flooding
- Implementation scope of work (short term and ongoing):

## Description

Engage the community in the areas of the city most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change to develop a climate adaptation plan beyond sea-level rise and flooding supporting implementation of the Environmental Justice Element programs and aligning with the four goals from the State of California framework (to tap into federal and state funding sources):

- 1) Build awareness and notification
- 2) Strengthen community services/response
- 3) Increase resilience of the built environment
- 4) Utilize nature-based solutions

Develop an urban forest management plan and lead an early action tree planting effort

# CAP strategy No. 6

- Partnership with OneShoreline and neighboring cities to apply for grant funding to complete a regional shoreline adaptation plan
- Procurement process underway for both a:
  - Technical consultant to develop an urban forest management plan
  - Community-based organization to plant trees in Belle Haven



# Discussion



# Local Building Code Options

Ori Paz, Management Analyst II

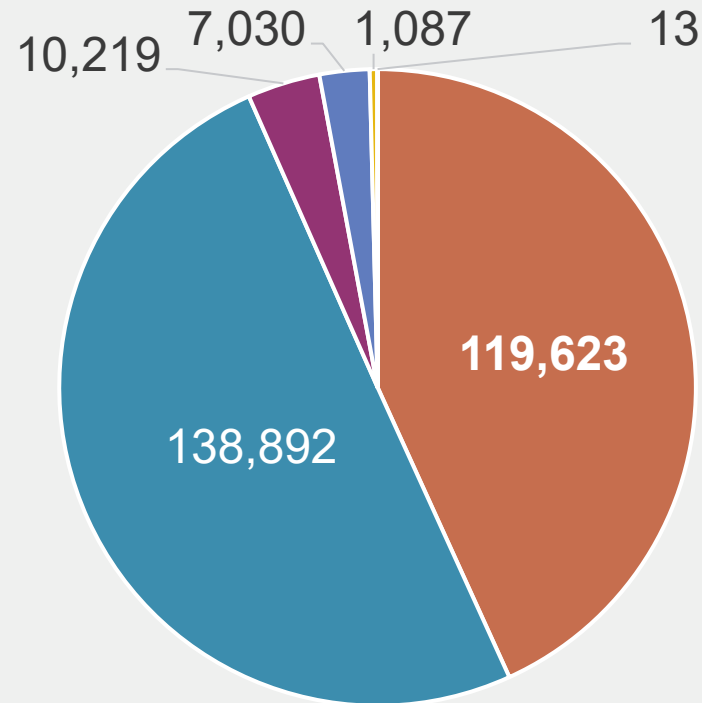
# Agenda

- Background
- Overview of building code options
- Process timeline and opportunities for public input
- Public workshop recap
- Discussion and EQC recommendation

# Motivations for electrification

- Electrification is switching appliances from using natural gas to carbon-free electricity for heating/ cooling, cooking, and clothes drying in our homes, apartments, offices, stores, and beyond
- Co-benefits include:
  - Greenhouse gas reductions
  - Improved indoor and community air quality (community health)
  - Energy affordability vs. gas price volatility
  - Resilience and safety
  - Equity
- The costs of rebuilding after climate disasters is much higher than the costs of mitigation through electrification

# 2023 greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory



Building energy  
was the source of  
43% of  
communitywide  
emissions

■ Building Energy

■ Solid Waste

■ On-road Transportation

■ Wastewater

■ Off-road Equipment

■ Water



# How can we build a cleaner tomorrow?

- Promote voluntary action
  - Education
  - Outreach events
  - City programs
    - Permit fee waiver
    - Home upgrade program
  - Advertise incentives
    - Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE)
    - Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)
    - TECH Clean California
    - Federal (Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
- Adopt rules to require action
  - Building code amendments

## Requiring action: building codes

- Building codes set the minimum standard
- Updated every three years
- Cities can adopt local amendments – specific rules that go beyond the state requirements

# A closer look at municipal code amendments

- Construction project requirements (time of pulling a permit):
  - Residential
    - Single-family residential and duplex
    - Mixed-use residential
    - Multi-family
- Nonresidential
  - Commercial (office, retail, restaurants)
  - Life science labs
  - Hotels
- Time of sale requirements

# What's already included with the 2025 code?



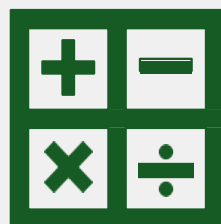
## Heat pump adoption emphasis

- Single-family: Use heat pumps for both space and water heating
- Multifamily: Wider use of heat pump for space heating, plus heat pump water heaters for individual units
- Nonresidential: Expanded baseline from 2022



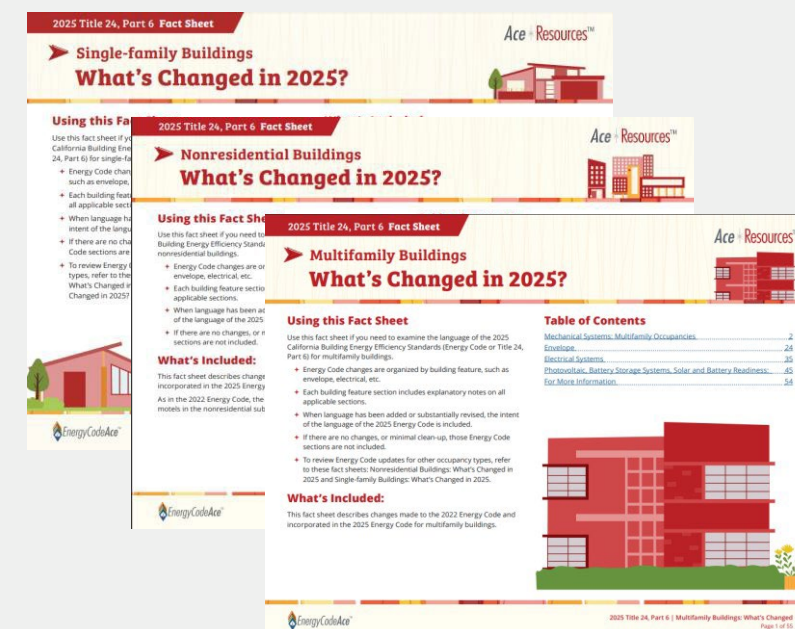
## Electric-ready emphasis

- Allows owners flexibility to upgrade to electric cooking and water heating when the investment works for them



## Cost effectiveness change

- 2025 calculations will be made based on Longterm Systemwide Cost (LSC)



Effective Jan. 1, 2026, learn more about statewide changes with summary fact sheets from [energycodeace.com/resources](https://energycodeace.com/resources)

# Possible building code amendments

	New construction			Existing buildings		
	Single-family and duplex	MF residential	Nonresidential	Single-family and duplex	MF residential	Nonresidential
Pre-wiring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AC to heat pump	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Flex path	x	x	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☒ = already included in 2025 base code

☐ = available option

X = unavailable/not pursuing

# Other options for the 2025 code cycle

	New construction			Existing buildings		
	Single-family and duplex	MF residential	Nonresidential	Single-family and duplex	MF residential	Nonresidential
Building Performance Standard (BPS)	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Green Building Ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time of sale ordinance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☑ = already included in 2025 base code

☐ = available option

X = unavailable/not pursuing

# Pre-wiring update

- Enables future electrification of existing buildings by providing wiring and electrical capacity for key appliances
- City Council adopted pre-wiring for existing single-family homes in January 2025
- New updates could expand existing requirements to:
  - Cover full home electrification when sizing equipment
  - Capture opportunities to clarify process to request smart panels/load sharing
  - Explore options for other building types

# Air conditioner (AC) to heat pump (HP)

- Requires installation of a heat pump when a new cooling (AC) system is proposed
- Ensures residents in existing buildings benefit from modern equipment
- Residents would receive the same level of cooling, with additional heating option in a single piece of equipment
- Required in base code for new construction and some additions and alterations for residential and nonresidential buildings





## Flex path

- Requirements for major residential addition and/or alteration projects (based on affected area square footage or project cost)
- Flexible pathways to meet required point limit that includes energy efficiency measures and/or electrification measures
- Points based on energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) savings
- Opportunity to explore additional nonresidential building types

# Building performance standard (BPS)

- Adopt a policy standard for commercial buildings over a specific square footage
- Policy could require disclosing building energy use, increasing energy efficiency, and eventually, electrifying buildings as a phased approach
  - Examples include: Berkeley, Brisbane, Chula Vista, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and San Jose



## **Benchmark**

Report metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e and square footage



## **Retro-commissioning**

Engineering report on energy saving opportunities



## **Performance standard**

Complete projects to reach the threshold

# Green building ordinance

- Larger buildings would have options to be zero-emission or achieve a green building certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design LEED), Passive House, Living Building Challenge)
- Would allow flexibility for compliance, but there could be impacts to project completion timelines
- The City has LEED requirements in several zoning districts within Menlo Park
  - LEED is required in other cities including: San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose,
  - Passive House is required in Denver, Pennsylvania (for public housing), Massachusetts (as alternative code compliance), New York and Washington State
  - Living Building Challenge is required in the City of Santa Monica (public buildings) and Seattle (for zoning bonuses)

# Time of sale requirements

- Mandates energy assessments, disclosures and project funding at the time of sale for certain properties
  - E.g. one-to-four-unit residential buildings
- Includes:
  - Completing an energy assessment
  - Public reporting of energy assessments
  - Buyer and seller fund energy improvement escrow account
  - Use it or lose it within three years for qualifying projects for set point value
  - City audit after three years to confirm compliance with required point total
- Specific requirements and exemptions vary based on building size and type
- Based on City of Berkeley building emission savings ordinance (BESO)

<https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/BESO%20Amendments%20Overview.pdf>

# Model code resources

- PCE is working with Silicon Valley Clean Energy and TRC consultants to develop model building code amendments for cities
- Single model code with multiple rules
  - Pre-wiring
  - AC to HP
  - Flex path
- Each city can decide the thresholds and requirements during individual amendment process
- Some sections will be ready to align with Jan 1, 2026 base code start date

# PCE/TRC tentative adoption & future workshop release timelines for model code resources

Approach	April - June 2025	July - September	October - December	January 2026
Existing Building – Single Family AC to HP	Cost-effectiveness workshop. Model code + resources published (SF)			
Existing Building – Flex Path	Model code and resources published (SF) Cost-effectiveness workshop (NR)	Cost-effectiveness workshop (MF) Model code and resources published (NR)	Model code and resources published (MF)	
Existing Building – Electric Readiness	Model code and resources published (SF)		Model code and resources published (MF, NR)	
New Construction – Energy Performance Approach		Cost-effectiveness workshop (SF)	Cost-effectiveness workshop (NR)	Cost-effectiveness workshop (MF) Model code and resources published (all)

SF = Single family MF = Multi-family NR = Nonresidential

# Timeline and next steps

There will be many more opportunities to provide input on the proposed building code amendments

May 6 and May 8  
Public engagement  
workshops



May 21  
Environmental Quality  
Commission (EQC)



July 8  
City Council study  
session  
(tentative)



July – August  
Building code  
development



Jan 1, 2026  
Implementation  
begins



November  
California Energy  
Commission  
approval



October  
Two City Council  
meetings  
(tentative)



September 17  
EQC meeting

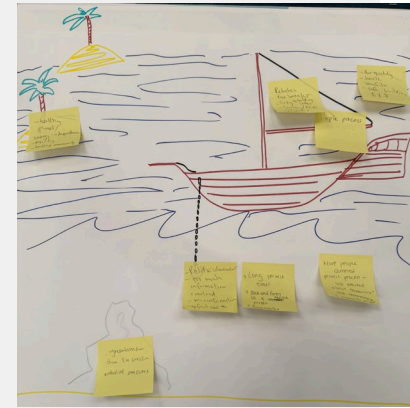
# Pending legislation

- Staff are monitoring State legislation (Assembly Bill 306) that would limit local amendments to residential projects
  - Code options for nonresidential appear unaffected
- AB 306 is currently being discussed in the State Senate
  - Some modifications are expected (focus on new construction)
- More information will be available by the July 8 tentative City Council study session date



# Public workshop recap

- Building a Cleaner Tomorrow: Building Code Amendment Feedback Workshop
  - May 6 in person at BHCC
  - May 8 online (recording in English and Spanish available online)



# Feedback received

- Priority goals include healthy planet and community, energy independence, and equity
- Cost of requirements is a major consideration for contractors and property owners
  - Incentives are key to matching gas equipment costs and winning projects
- Identify ways to have the proposed codes limit complexities at the permit counter
  - In-person help valued (“people-centered”)
  - Contractor confusion with submittal systems can create long timelines
- Equipment needs vary for homes
- Outreach and education are important
  - Clear information that addresses misinformation
  - Simplify/standardize language
  - Communicate through more channels
- Support existing incentive and assistance programs for homeowners and contractors (such as those available through PCE)

# Recommendation

- Staff recommends the Environmental Quality Commission establish a priority list of the options to advise the City Council to direct staff to develop code language



# Questions and discussion



# EQC annual report out to City Council and work plan

Rachael Londer, Sustainability Manager

# Recommendation

- Staff recommends that the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC):
  1. Select a presenter for the EQC annual report out to the City Council; and
  2. Establish a subcommittee to develop the EQC's annual work plan



# Background on the annual commission report out

---

- Each commission will have a representative make a presentation to the City Council by the end of August
- This presentation is near the beginning of the meeting
- At this time, commissions can present recommendations or status reports and request direction and support from City Council
- This annual report out can include:
  - What has been done in the past year
  - Upcoming plans
  - Specific discussion items that the representative of the advisory body would like to relay to City council

## Section of a presenter

- The EQC is scheduled to deliver the report out to City Council during their Aug. 26 meeting
- The report out at City Council typically includes a 5-minute presentation and 10-minutes of discussion
- Presenter is responsible for developing slides
- Staff will provide support including template slides used for previous years' presentations
- Presenter can be the Chair, Vice Chair or any commissioner



# EQC annual work plan development


- Work plan to be developed by EQC Commissioners in coordination with staff liaison and needs to be approved by EQC during or before the Aug. 20 EQC meeting.
- The work plan includes:
  - Annual goals
  - Topics and presenters for EQC meetings
  - EQC role
  - List of active ad hoc subcommittees
  - Regular annual items (election of chair/vice chair, city arborist report, presentation to City Council, ZELE report out, etc.)

# EQC annual work plan development

- City Council to approve EQC’s annual work plan during the September 9 City Council meeting

## Environmental Quality Commission work plan

City Manager's Office  
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park CA 94025  
Approved Sept. 24, 2024



Work plan goals		
1. Provide feedback to staff and advise the City Council on 2025-2030 scope of work implementation for Climate Action Plan (CAP) strategies No. 1 through No. 6		
2. Ensure that our most vulnerable communities have a voice in policies and programs to protect their communities from environmental impacts.		
3. Leverage best practices to advise/recommend on the preservation of heritage trees, city trees and expansion of the urban canopy; and make determinations on appeals of heritage tree removal permits.		
4. Support sustainability initiatives, as needs arise, which may include city-led events, habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction.		
5. Maintain an annual commission calendar to provide transparency and allow adequate time to prepare agenda items related to the commission's work plan; update and post for public review monthly.		
6. Encourage and facilitate robust public comment and participation at Commission meetings.		
7. Foster a public meeting environment that is inclusive of all members of the diverse Menlo Park community.		
8. Support the filling of openings on the Commission and the effective onboarding of new Commissioners.		

Work plan history		
Action	Date	Notes
Work plan recommended to EQC	7/17/2024	
Work plan City Council approval	9/24/2024	

# Recommendation

- Staff recommends that the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC):
  1. Select a presenter for the EQC annual report out to the City Council; and
  2. Establish a subcommittee to develop the EQC's annual work plan



# Thank you!

# Environmental Quality Commission work plan

City Manager's Office

701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park CA 94025

Approved Sept. 24, 2024



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## Work plan history

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## Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) agenda topics fiscal year 2024-25

**Agenda schedule may change based on City Council, Chair and Vice Chair and staff requests/direction**

Month	Topics	Author/Presenter	EQC role
July 2024	Discuss fiscal year 2024-25 agenda calendar, work plan and subcommittees	Sustainability staff/ad hoc subcommittee	Action by Commission
	Annual City Arborist Report and review of heritage tree ordinance administrative guidelines	City arborist and public works staff	Feedback to staff on ideas, policies and programs
	Discuss opportunities for student engagement in EQC	Chair	Action by Commission
August 2024	Review student engagement goals and plan	Student engagement ad hoc subcommittee	Action by Commission
	Presentation on the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association's (SPUR) relevant research and programs	Guest speakers	Informational/no action
September 2024	Review and discuss student engagement ad hoc subcommittee recommendations	Student engagement ad hoc subcommittee	Action by Commission
	Presentation from the Institute for Market Transformation on Building Performance Standards	Guest speaker	Informational/no action
	Consider appointing commissioners to subcommittees	Sustainability staff	Action by Commission
	Update on the Menlo Park City School District Climate Action Plan	Chair	Informational/no action
October 2024	Presentation from Sustainable San Mateo County	Guest speakers	Informational/no action
	Review Heritage Tree Ordinance administrative guidelines	Sustainability staff	Informational
November 2024	Discuss updates to the Heritage Tree Ordinance administrative guidelines process	Heritage Tree Ordinance administrative guidelines ad hoc subcommittee	Action by Commission
	Review additional urban forest recommendations	Heritage Tree Ordinance administrative	Action by Commission

	guidelines ad hoc subcommittee		
	Update on Compliance with SB 379 Permitting for residential solar energy systems	Sustainability Staff	Informational/provide feedback to staff
	Review and discuss approach for the Love Our Earth festival	Sustainability staff	Informational/provide feedback to staff
December 2024	No meeting		
January 2025	Review and discuss recommendations from the impact of plastics on the environment ad hoc subcommittee	Impact of plastics on the environment ad hoc subcommittee	Action by Commission
	Review and discuss recommendations to promote solar and battery storage	Distributed energy resources ad hoc subcommittee	Action by Commission
February 2025	Review options and outreach approach for adopting amendments to the building code	Sustainability staff	Action by commission
	Update on building electrification outreach and education and provide feedback on second round of programming (\$4.5 million grant)	Sustainability staff	Provide feedback to staff
March 2025	Select Chair and Vice Chair	Chair	Action by Commission
	Report out on Zero Emission Landscaping Equipment Voucher Program	Sustainability staff	Informational, provide feedback to staff
April 2025	Discuss CAP progress report	Sustainability staff	Informational/no action
	Discuss state, federal and additional grant opportunities	Chair	Informational, provide feedback to staf
May 2025	Update on building code local amendment options	Sustainability staff	Provide feedback to staff
	Discuss CAP progress report including strategies four, five, and six	City staff	Informational/provide feedback to staff
	Discuss annual agenda calendar/ work plan to present to the City Council	Sustainability staff/Chair and Vice Chair	Action by Commission
June 2025	Annual City Arborist Report	City arborist and public works staff	Informational



	Approve the annual agenda calendar/ work plan to present to the City Council	Sustainability staff	Action by Commission
July 2025	Review Peninsula Clean Energy's programs	Sustainability staff	Provide feedback to staff
	Transportation ad hoc subcommittee report out	Transportation ad hoc subcommittee	Provide feedback to staff

#### Ad hoc subcommittees

- Student Engagement Ad Hoc Subcommittee
  - Scope: To identify opportunities, recommend programs, and discuss ways to engage students in Menlo Park.
  - Duration: Three months – report out in September 2024
  - Commissioners: Chair Schmidt, Vice Chair McKenna, Commissioner Meyer
- Heritage Tree Ordinance Administrative Guidelines Ad Hoc Subcommittee
  - Scope: Review and present recommendations to amend the heritage tree ordinance administrative guidelines to protect heritage trees and the city's tree canopy.
  - Duration: Three months – report out in October 2024
  - Commissioners: Chair Schmidt, Commissioner Hill, Commissioner Hedley
- Distributed Energy Resources Ad Hoc Subcommittee
  - Scope: Identify and implement programs that can increase the amount of solar and battery storage in Menlo Park.
  - Duration: Two months – report out in January 2025
  - Commissioners: Commissioner Pelegri-Llopart, Commissioner Hill, Commissioner Kissel
- Impact of Plastics on the Environment Ad Hoc Subcommittee
  - Scope: Research and present recommendations on programs and policies to prevent stormwater pollution in the city including artificial turf and single use plastics.
  - Duration: Two months – report out in January 2025
  - Commissioners: Vice Chair McKenna, Commissioner Hedley
- Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Ad Hoc Subcommittee
  - Scope: Provide feedback to inform the development of a Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Plan
  - Duration: Two months with an expected report to the EQC in March 2025
  - Commissioners: Chair McKenna, Commissioner Hernandez, Commissioner Meyer
- Transportation Ad Hoc Subcommittee
  - Scope: Work with Complete Streets and Planning Commissions to develop, implement, and communicate programs that support public transit, bicycling, walking, and rolling to reduce vehicle miles traveled.
  - Duration: Two months with an expected report to the EQC in July 2025
  - Commissioners: Commissioner Hedley, Commissioner Meyer, Chair McKenna

#### Other topics to be determined

- Identify grant funding opportunities
- Track Menlo Park School District electrification efforts and CAP development
- Promote the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Provide recommendations for workforce training related to building electrification
- Urban forest management plan

- Electrification reach codes and policies
- Review and discuss recommendations for developing a climate change resilience and adaptation plan

#### Regular items

- Annual selection of Chair and Vice Chair (May)
- Chair report to the City Council (at minimum once per year)
- Set fiscal year commission agenda calendar (June/July)
- Annual informational presentation on existing building electrification outreach and education (annual)
- Annual City Arborist Report (spring)
- Zero Emissions Landscaping Equipment (ZELE) Policy progress (requires two years of reporting to the commission directed by the city council starting in 2025)