



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, Oct. 5, 2020

City of San Diego Hosts Virtual Community Forums for Climate Action Plan Update

EVENTS PLANNED IN ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS, RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO SHARE THEIR VIEWPOINTS AND PRIORITIES

SAN DIEGO – In order to gather public feedback on climate action efforts and future goals, the City of San Diego is hosting a series of virtual community forums for residents in all nine City Council districts. The virtual forums are scheduled in place of in-person community events due to health orders discouraging public gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Earlier this year, the Sustainability Department launched <u>Our Climate, Our Future</u>, an expanded vision for climate action in San Diego. When the City's landmark Climate Action Plan was adopted in 2015, it included a commitment to update the plan in 2020. This update will incorporate changes in state laws and policies, advances in technology, and new goals for creating a more sustainable future for all.

"We know it's a difficult time for our residents because of this pandemic and many things have changed for people. It's crucial that we hear from them so we can better understand the unique challenges facing San Diegans," said Chief Sustainability Officer Cody Hooven. "As the City works to align local efforts with state climate goals to achieve zero carbon, we want to incorporate our residents' values and priorities into the updated climate action plan, especially as it relates to climate equity and economic opportunity."

Upcoming dates and registration information for the virtual forms are available on the City's <u>website</u>. All of the forums will be held on Zoom and a link will be sent to participants after they register. Language interpretation services will be available.

Anyone who is unable to attend a virtual forum can share their viewpoints through a public survey available online at <u>SDClimateSurvey.org</u>. To better understand how the COVID-19 pandemic could impact responses, the survey includes space for respondents to share their own experiences as they relate to our current situation.

The Climate Action Plan calls for the City to cut half of all greenhouse gas emissions by 2035. Strategies include 100% renewable electricity; water and energy efficiency; zero waste; bicycling, walking, transit and land use; and resiliency measures.

