



**MAYOR KEVIN L. FAULCONER  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO**

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NEWS RELEASE

# **Faulconer Releases Climate Action Plan to Create Green Jobs, Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gases**

*Plan Offers Economic Opportunity, Provides Roadmap for a Clean San Diego*

San Diego, CA – Today Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, City Council President Todd Gloria and Council President Pro Tem Sherri S. Lightner released an updated Climate Action Plan for the City of San Diego in front of the solar panels atop the City's Alvarado Water Treatment Plant.

The Climate Action Plan calls for eliminating half of all greenhouse gas emissions in the City and aims for all electricity used in the City to be from renewable sources by 2035.

**“By striking a balance between protecting our environment and growing our economy, San Diego can support clean technology, renewable energy and economic growth,” Mayor Faulconer said. “I’ve brought together environmental and business groups to update this plan and move San Diego forward. Let’s preserve our children’s future and hand down a San Diego that is cleaner than it was when we received it.”**

The Climate Action Plan is a package of common-sense policies that will benefit San Diego's environment and economy. It will create new jobs in the renewable energy industry, improve public health and air quality, enhance water quality, efficiently use existing resources, increase local energy production, improve quality of life and save taxpayer money.

The plan also clearly identifies steps the Mayor and City Council can take to achieve the 2035 targets. That list includes crafting an ordinance that requires developers to install conduit for solar and electric vehicle charging stations in new construction; creating a renewable energy program; developing a zero waste plan; and changing policy to have a majority of the City's fleet be electric vehicles.

The Climate Action Plan helps achieve the greenhouse gas reduction targets set forth in the 2005 executive order issued by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. The City's first Climate Action Plan was approved in 2005 and a commitment to update the plan was included in the City's 2008 General Plan update. This new plan is in draft form until it is reviewed by the public and approved by the City Council.

The Climate Action Plan can be [viewed here on the City's website](#).

## **WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**

**Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer:** “San Diego is a city that innovates. We are a city that leads. We are a city where our environment is central to our quality of life. That’s why I’m proud today to release a plan that will help our communities thrive and create the green jobs of tomorrow.”

**City Council President Todd Gloria:** “This plan demonstrates that San Diego is a progressive leader in addressing climate change, and that we value our people and our environment enough to take such decisive and strong action.”

**City Council President Pro Tem Sherri S. Lightner:** “As a Councilmember representing our coastal communities, I have long advocated for the City of San Diego to adopt a Climate Action Plan to help protect our environment for decades to come. I appreciate all the work that Mayor Faulconer, Council President Gloria, the task force and stakeholders have put into this draft. I’m looking forward to adopting a final plan that takes advantage of new and innovative technologies, conserves valuable resources, achieves energy and water efficiencies, and provides incentives to homeowners and business owners to upgrade their properties.”

**Stephen Heverly, managing director of the Equinox Center:** “Equinox Center is encouraged by Mayor Faulconer’s proposed climate plan because it includes goals for creating a resilient city with a healthy environment and strong economy, while meeting greenhouse gas reduction targets.”

**Jason Anderson, president of Cleantech San Diego:** “Cleantech San Diego applauds the efforts of the Mayor and the City Council on the release of San Diego’s Climate Action Plan. Not only will the identified goals and actions preserve our environment and quality of life, but they also will help boost our economy. Whether it’s reducing a building’s energy consumption or integrating renewable energy resources, the solutions exist today and the companies that can provide these solutions are right here in San Diego.”

**Matthew Adams, Vice President of the Building Industry Association of San Diego County:** “We appreciate the Mayor’s effort to craft a realistic and comprehensive Climate Action Plan to achieve state mandated greenhouse gas reductions. As the representatives of those who construct the most energy efficient buildings in the nation – if not the world – the BIA looks forward to a productive dialogue as the process moves forward.”

**Chanelle Hawken, executive director of public policy for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce:** “We applaud Mayor Faulconer’s collaborative approach and focus on green jobs and technology. We look forward to the public discussion, and working to make San Diego the most business-friendly region in the state.”

**Leslie Kilpatrick, president of the Greater San Diego Association of REALTORS:** “Mayor Faulconer brought everyone to the table. He listened and he put together a plan all of us can get behind. We’re happy to see a process that’s inclusive, that puts San Diegans first, and includes groups like ours that are key to growing our economy.”

