# 

Through the City's "Our Climate, Our Future" initiative, Mayor Todd Gloria is looking to position San Diego as a global leader on inclusive climate action. This multi-faceted approach seeks to address the climate crisis, improve public health and quality of life, and drive innovation and opportunity in our local economy.

## A Pathway to Zero

San Diego's landmark 2022 Climate Action Plan (CAP) to protect our future has been unanimously approved by the City Council and signed into law by Mayor Gloria. The 2022 CAP establishes a community-wide goal of net zero by 2035, committing San Diego to an accelerated trajectory for greenhouse gas reductions. Achieving net-zero emissions will improve the air we breathe, the communities we live in and our overall quality of life.



sandiego.gov/climatefuture

FACTSHEE

### CORE TENETS OF THE "OUR CLIMATE, OUR FUTURE" INITIATIVE:

#### **Climate Equity**

The risks and benefits of climate change and climate action are not evenly distributed. The City must address historic disparities and prioritize areas with the greatest vulnerability. To start, the City developed a first-of-its-kind **Climate Equity Index** (CEI) through a community-driven process with local nonprofits and community-based organizations. The CEI measures relative access to opportunity and environmental, economic and health conditions among San Diego communities. To advance equitable climate investment, the City created a Climate Equity Fund dedicated to climate investments in traditionally underserved communities. Next, an **Environmental Justice Element** will be developed as a new section of the City's General Plan to provide policies ensuring community members have equitable access to a healthy environment.



### **Building Decarbonization**

**Building Decarbonization**, or achieving zero-emissions buildings, presents the largest opportunity for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of any sector. Outlined in the 2022 Climate Action Plan (CAP) as the first of six strategies aimed at achieving net-zero emissions by 2035, decarbonization will result in better air quality and improved public health by significantly reducing harmful combustion pollutants associated with burning natural gas. Additionally, shifting to clean, renewable electricity generated and stored onsite will increase resilience and economic wellbeing by ensuring the lights stay on during grid outages, which are increasing with climate change.

How do we get there? Several action items are laid out in the CAP, including:

- Removing fossil fuel systems from new-building development through amendments to the building code in 2023.
- Decarbonizing existing buildings (phasing out 90% of natural gas usage from existing buildings citywide by 2035), a multi-year planning strategy developed through robust stakeholder engagement.
- Shifting to electricity with higher content of renewable power, either purchased from San Diego Community Power (San Diego's new, nonprofit energy provider), or by deploying clean energy technologies on site, such as solar PV, battery energy storage and/or renewable microgrids.





# **OUR FUTURE**



#### **Mobility Master Plan**

The **Mobility Master Plan** is the City's plan to create a roadmap to a healthier, safer and more sustainable transportation network by implementing the CAP to reduce vehicle miles traveled and provide desirable alternative modes of transportation.





# **Organic Waste Recycling**

In 2023, the City will begin **composting organic waste** at the Miramar Greenery, which will reduce the amount of methane that escapes into the atmosphere and contributes to climate change. Organics like food scraps and yard trimmings make up a third of what San Diegans send to the landfill each year. Diverting these materials and recycling them into compost helps the City meet statewide targets, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, contribute to a circular economy, and move us closer to our zero-waste and climate-action goals.





#### **Climate Resilient SD**

**<u>Climate Resilient SD</u>** is the City's plan to prepare our communities for the impacts of climate change, including extreme heat, wildfires, flooding, drought and sea-level rise. It lays the foundation for a greener, healthier and more prepared city, with a focus on frontline communities that bear the largest burden of extreme weather in San Diego.







Visit sandiego.gov/climatefuture to learn more about how these efforts work together for everyone's benefit.





so, sustainability