Abridged Climate Action Plan 2.0

A Quick Look at the City of Piedmont's CAP 2.0

Introduction

Climate change poses a real and significant threat to human health and the environment both globally and locally. More floods, wildfires, and other severe weather events are increasingly more common due to climate change, with concurrent disruptions to residents, businesses, and economies. In 2017, Piedmont City Council passed a resolution expressing Piedmont's commitment to the goals of the Paris Agreement and also approved joining the Global Covenant of Mayors. As a signatory, Piedmont is committed to creating an updated Climate Action Plan (CAP) and providing periodic progress reports in the form of GHG inventories that are made available to the public. It is estimated that State and Federal actions will provide approximately 85% of the reductions needed and Piedmont will need to provide only the additional 15% necessary to meet the GHG reduction targets set out in this plan¹. Thus, Piedmont's influence on actions outside of the City's borders are at least as important for addressing climate change as actions taken within the City, particularly given the relatively limited amount of GHG emissions associated with a small, residential community.

Purpose

The purpose of this CAP is to support current statewide climate efforts, provide a pathway for Piedmont to reduce GHG emissions 40% by 2030, and be on track to reduce emissions 80% by 2050.

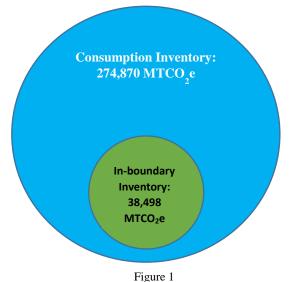


Figure 1 shows the total consumption inventory of greenhouse gas emissions by Piedmonters in relation to the amount of greenhouse gases emitted within the city boundaries in 2015.

¹ Calculation based on estimated forecasts of emissions due to current California policies and general trends.

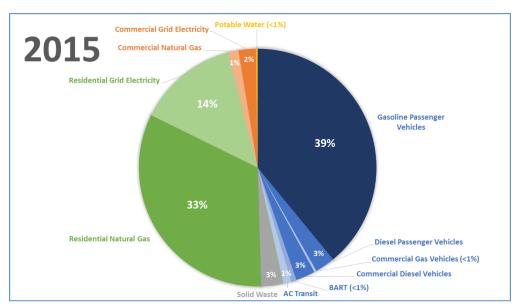


Figure 2

Figure 2 represents the total in-boundary GHG emissions in 2015 (the small circle inside of the Consumption Inventory of Figure 1).

Priorities

The priorities listed below are based on curbing the three largest sources of GHG emissions in Piedmont (as can be seen in figure 2): petroleum-fueled personal vehicle use, natural gas use for space and water heating, and building electricity use.

Residential Priorities		Governmental Priorities	
Consumption	 Reduce food waste, choose low-carbon food options, and support local business Reuse and recycle Purchase carbon offsets for air travel Increase community engagement and education efforts 	Energy	♣ Support EBCE's 100% renewable option as the default for Piedmont
Energy	 ↓ Support and purchase electricity from 100% renewable sources ↓ Reduce household energy consumption ↓ Replace gas appliances with electric appliances ↓ Go solar 	Implementation	 ♣ Remove regulatory barriers and implement incentives ♣ Community outreach
Transportation	 Reduce number of trips made by car Increase the amount of trips made by foot, bike, or public transit Make the transition to electric vehicles 	Teamwork	 Support the PUSD's Climate goals Invest in staff's capacity to pursue sustainability Lead by example

Objectives:

The CAP 2.0 states specific objectives - in addition to the priorities for the residents and for the government- that will aid in achieving the reduction targets. CAP 2.0 Objectives were developed in response to the results of Piedmont's GHG inventory.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN OBJECTIVES

TRANSPORTATION	BUILDINGS AND ENERGY	
Objective: Increase number of trips made by biking or	Objective: Reduce Residential Building Energy Use	
walking	Objective: Reduce Commercial Building Energy Use	
Objective: Reduce transportation emissions from schools	Objective: Increase Renewable Energy to 100%	
Objective: Increase residents' use of public transit	Objective: Partner with Schools to Reduce Energy Use Objective: Reduce Local Air Pollution and High Global	
Objective: Accelerate the adoption of Electric Vehicles	Warming Potential Gases	
(EV) in Piedmont	Objective: Investigate Infrastructure Upgrades and New Technologies	
Objective: Reduce miles traveled in personal gasoline vehicles	ADAPTATION	
Objective: Increase mixed-use development	Objective: Reduce damage from storms and flooding	
SOLID WASTE	Objective: Reduce risks of extreme heat	
Objective: Reduce waste going to the landfill	Objective Bodger side of demand from a desire	
MUNICIPAL	Objective: Reduce risks of damage from extreme events	
Objective: Reduce emissions from City buildings and energy supply	WATER	
Objective: Reduce City waste	Objective: Reduce water use by 20% Objective: Conserve and Collect water	
Objective: Reduce Employee Transportation emissions	CONSUMPTION	
Objective: Reduce City Water Use	Objective: Increase awareness of consumption related GHG emissions	
Objective: Use the City's resources to disseminate and collect information on climate change	Objective: Reduce emissions associated with food consumption and food waste	
Objective: Consider adjusting taxes to reflect the social costs of carbon	Objective: Reduce emissions from the consumption and disposal of goods	

Conclusion

The City of Piedmont is making strides towards being a cleaner and more sustainable city. Climate change is a real threat to our environment and to our daily way of life. However, there is hope that this threat can be mitigated. Through the CAP 2.0 and coordinated efforts towards its implementation, Piedmonters can make a dent in the battle for combating climate change.