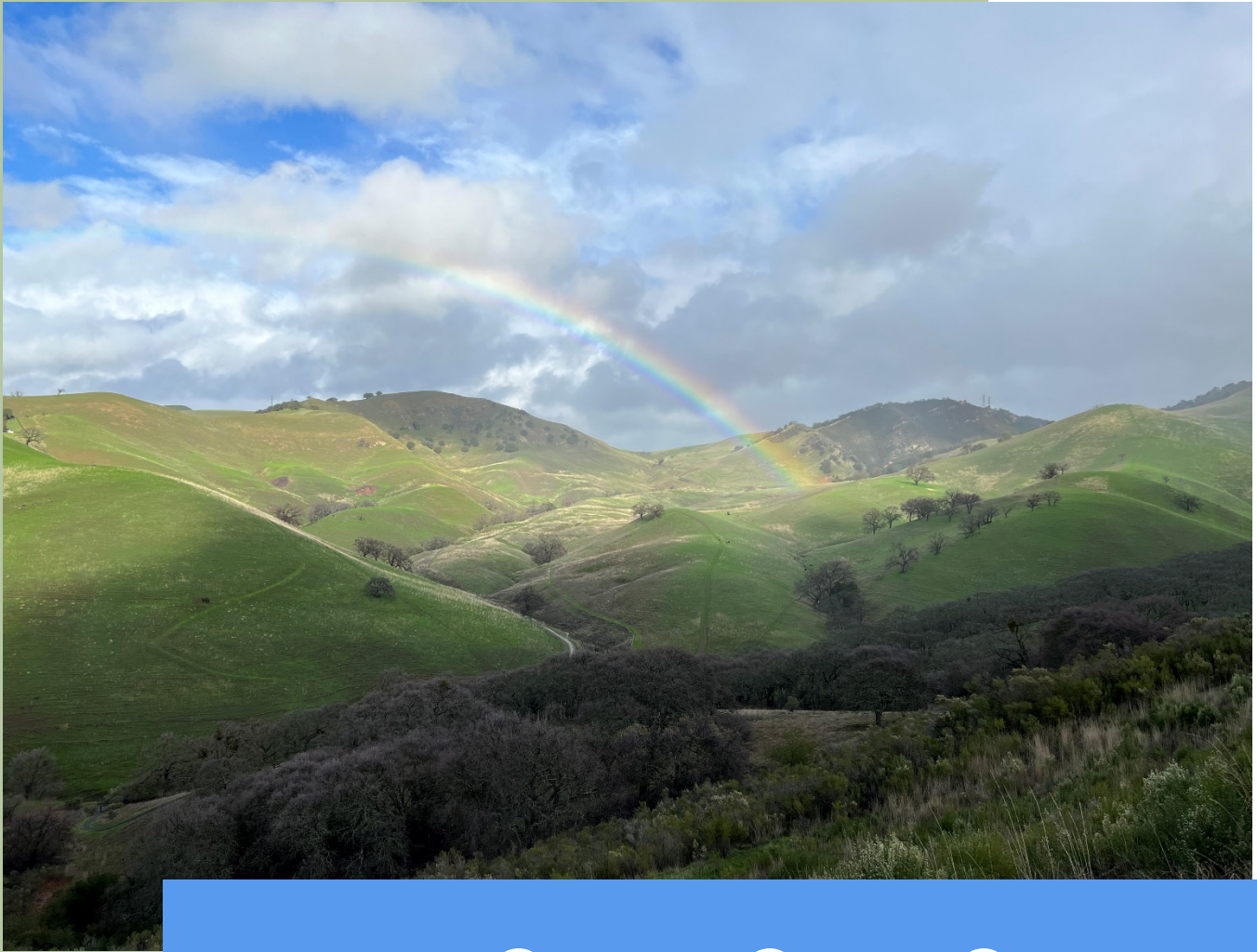


March 21, 2023



Photograph courtesy of Jennifer Groth

Contra Costa County CAP Interim Work Plan 2022 Progress Report

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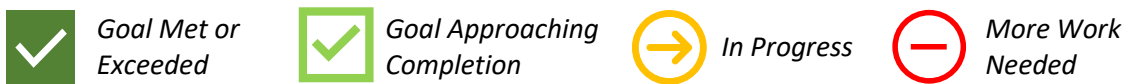
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Executive Summary











This report provides a progress update on the 2021-2022 Contra Costa County Climate Action Plan (CAP) Interim Work Plan (Interim Work Plan). The Interim Work Plan outlines the actions the County will take to address our changing climate while the CAP is updated alongside the County’s General Plan. There are seven goals outlined in the Interim Work Plan, which aim to increase the effectiveness of climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.

This Executive Summary provides a high-level overview of the County’s progress. More detail is provided in the main report. In general, the County met or made significant progress toward most of the 2021-2022 goals. The icons below indicate the County’s status on the goals included in the Interim Work Plan.



	Goal	Tools	Achievements	Status
1	Clean and Efficient Built Environment	<i>Homes, workplaces, and businesses in Contra Costa County run on clean energy</i>		
1.1	Increase the number of carbon neutral buildings in Contra Costa County	· Building electrification	· The Board of Supervisors adopted the All-Electric Ordinance on January 18, 2022.	
		· Energy Efficiency and weatherization programs	· 146 weatherization projects were completed (19 in the unincorporated area of the county). · 580 BayREN Home+ projects were completed (42 in the unincorporated area of the county). · The Asthma Initiative is an ongoing effort with 44 clients currently being served. · Staff has begun drafting the County's Strategic Energy Management Plan.	
		· Energy storage	· There are 3 battery storage systems at County facilities, totaling 1,500 kW of capacity.	
		· Carbon Neutral County Buildings	· Current new construction and major renovations of County facilities include LED lighting. Heat pump technology is also considered.	
		· Rooftop Solar	· 1,720 residential permits and 11 commercial permits for rooftop or ground mount solar installations were issued.	
1.2	Replace fossil fuel electricity with renewable electricity	· Increase participation in MCE Deep Green program by County facilities	· Approximately 70% of County electricity usage is associated with a Deep Green account. · 2% of accounts in the unincorporated area of the county are enrolled in Deep Green.	
		· Install more renewable electricity in County facilities	· There is 7,332 kW of solar at County facilities serving the County electricity load.	

	Goal	Tools	Achievements	Status
2	Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure	<i>Contra Costa County will increase resilience to climate hazards and foster community health</i>		
2.1	Sequester carbon in natural lands in Contra Costa County	- Carbon sequestration on public and private lands	- Staff will complete a carbon sequestration feasibility study through a grant from the CA Dept. of Conservation in April 2023.	
		- Install green infrastructure	- County maintains implementation of the Green Infrastructure Plan.	
		- Increase use of pervious paving	- Pervious paving was not installed in County projects.	
2.2	Address impacts of heat islands	- Increase number of cool roofs	- 359 residential permits for cool roofs and 1 commercial permit for cool roofs were obtained for privately owned structures.	
3	No-Waste Contra Costa	<i>Contra Costa County generates no more solid waste than 2.25 pounds per person per day (PPD)</i>		
3.1	Recover organic waste and edible food (SB 1383/Short Lived Climate Pollutants Program)	Establish enforceable mechanism to mandate organic waste and edible food recovery	- The Board of Supervisors adopted the Organic Waste Disposal Reduction Ordinance in December 2021.	
		Outreach and education to residential and commercial customers in County franchise areas	- Staff provided applicable outreach materials to residential and commercial customers via webpage and newspaper publication.	
		Implement weekly organics collection services for all residential and commercial customers served in County franchise areas	- The Board of Supervisors adopted two updated franchise agreements to expand weekly organics collection to some customers in central and east county.	
		Establish Edible Food Recovery Program	- Staff engaged with Tier 1 and 2 businesses regarding edible food recovery.	
3.2	Update the County's existing Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy	Add language addressing per capita procurement requirements for specified recovered organic waste products	- The EPP Policy was updated to include language addressing per capita procurement requirements for specified recovered organic waste products.	
		Add language addressing recycled paper content requirements	- The EPP Policy was updated to include language addressing recycled paper content requirements.	
		Add language to address other sustainability priorities	- The updated EPP Policy was brought to the Sustainability Committee in November 2022 and will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for adoption in early 2023.	
4	Reduce Water Use and Increase Drought Resilience	<i>Contra Costa County uses less water and communities are prepared for drought</i>		
4.1	Reduce water use in unincorporated County and in County facilities	- Promote water conservation	- The County has received reports from water districts detailing overall water use.	
4.2	Manage groundwater resources sustainably	- Groundwater Sustainability Plan	- The East Contra Costa Groundwater Sustainability Plan was submitted to the CA Dept. of Water Resources.	

	Goal	Tools	Achievements	Status
5	Clean Transportation Network	<i>Contra Costa County's transportation network provides safe and accessible options for walking, biking, and transit. If residents and workers are driving, they are in electric vehicles.</i>		
5.1	Reduce vehicle miles traveled in Contra Costa County by increasing number of people who bike, walk, and take public transit.	· Physically separated bicycle network in the unincorporated portions of the County that connects to the countywide network	· The County is working to maintain and expand a countywide bicycle network.	
		· Complete and Adopt Active Transportation Plan	· The Board of Supervisors adopted the Active Transportation Plan in March 2022.	
		· Develop and adopt through the Capital Road Improvement and Preservation Plan (CRIPP) process an updated list of transportation projects that reduce vehicle miles traveled	· The 2022 Capital Road Improvement & Preservation Program was adopted in November 2022. · There are 33 actively funded projects.	
		· Identify strategies and funding to implement recommendations in 2019 Employee Commute Survey of County employees	· The County continues to implement the Remote Work Policy for all County employees. · 8 employees used the pre-tax commuter benefit.	
5.2	Increase percentage of electric vehicles in Contra Costa County fleet.	· Increase number of electric vehicles purchased by County departments	· There are 31 all-electric vehicles in the County's fleet. · 2% of the County's fleet is all-electric.	
		· Install EV chargers at County facilities	· There are 40 charging ports available at County facilities.	
6	Climate Equity	<i>The CAP will mitigate environmental factors leading to health disparities, promote safe and livable communities, and promote investments that improve neighborhood accessibility.</i>		
6.1	All residents live in clean, healthy homes and neighborhoods, have access to parks, open space, and fresh food, and can easily move through the County.	· Complete work on environmental justice policies for General Plan · Evaluate CAP strategies for equitable benefits for frontline communities.	· The County released a revised draft of the Environmental Justice Policy Guidance in May 2022.	
6.2	Plan for transition to a local economy that is less reliant on fossil fuels	· Collaborate with stakeholders to develop an inclusive process	· The County is preparing to receive a \$750,000 Community Project Funding grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Project Narrative and Budget approved by the Board of Supervisors were submitted to HUD at the end of 2022.	
7	Leadership	<i>Contra Costa County is a model for how local government can take action on climate issues.</i>		
7.1	Contra Costa County is a leader among local governments on how it addresses climate issues	· Continue work of Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force	· The Task Force continues to produce semi-annual reports to the Board of Supervisors.	
		· Participation by County departments in County's Green Business Program	· 18 County departments participate in the Green Government Group (G3) Champions program.	
		· Participation by eligible County departments in EBMUD Water Smart Business program	· This program has been discontinued.	
7.2	Implement Climate Emergency Resolution	· Implement climate emergency resolution.	· Implementation of the Climate Emergency Resolution is ongoing. Focus in 2022 was on the Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force, Just Transition, and the All-Electric Ordinance.	
7.3	Build Community and County Employee Support for Climate Action Plan	· Newsletters · Meetings · Collaboration with community based organizations	· Sustainability staff publish a regular column in Contra Costa FOCUS employee newsletter and quarterly Sustainability Newsletter. · Sustainability staff have attended and hosted events for community members and local government staff.	

Contra Costa County CAP Interim Work Plan 2022 Progress Report

Introduction

This report provides a progress update on the 2021-2022 Contra Costa County Climate Action Plan (CAP) Interim Work Plan (Interim Work Plan). The Interim Work Plan outlines the actions the County undertook in 2021 and 2022 to address our changing climate while the CAP is updated alongside the County's General Plan. There are seven goals outlined in the Interim Work Plan, which aim to increase the effectiveness of climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. Additionally, the Interim Work Plan allows the County to monitor progress towards its climate goals.

Under each goal, there are sub-goals corresponding to actions that will help the County achieve the main goal. Various departments and agencies are responsible for implementing these goals and reporting out on measures of effectiveness. The achievements and progress made towards the Interim Work Plan goals in 2022 are detailed below.

Clean and Efficient Built Environment

Homes, workplaces, and businesses in Contra Costa County run on clean energy.

1.1 Increase the number of carbon neutral buildings in Contra Costa County

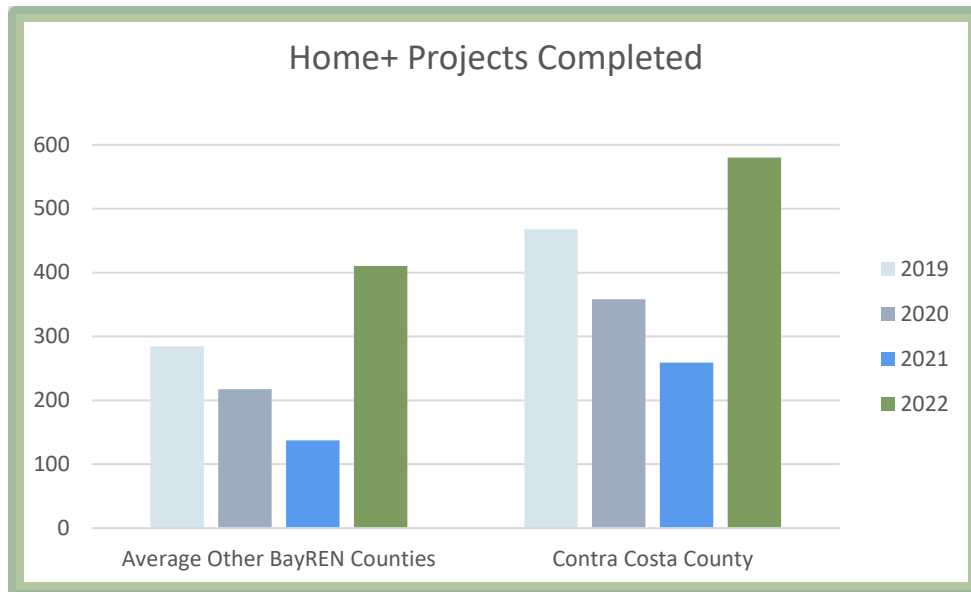
Building Electrification

The Board of Supervisors adopted the All-Electric Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2022-02) on January 18, 2022. The Ordinance amends the 2019 California Energy Code to require the new construction of residential (including single-family and multi-family buildings), detached accessory dwelling units (ADUs), hotel, office, and retail building types to be all-electric. Since the Ordinance went into effect on June 1, 2022, 67 single-family or duplex projects and 40 ADU projects received permits in alignment with the all-electric ordinance.

Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Programs

In 2022, 146 projects were completed through the Weatherization Program, with 19 projects taking place in the unincorporated area of the county. The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) provides energy efficiency programs, services, and resources to the nine Bay Area counties. There were 580 projects, 42 of which took place in the unincorporated area of the county, completed through BayREN's Home+ program, which provides rebates to single-family homeowners for energy efficiency improvements. The number of projects increased in 2022 after a decline since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. See *Figure 1*.

Figure 1: Home+ Projects Completed



The Contra Costa Asthma Initiative is an ongoing effort led by the Contra Costa Health Department in collaboration with the Department of Conservation and Development. As of December 2022, 44 clients were currently being served, and work with 49 clients had been completed. See *Figure 2* for an overview of the program’s work in 2022.

Figure 2: Contra Costa Asthma Initiative 2022 Impact

Contra Costa Asthma Initiative 2022 Impact	
Region	Number of Members Served
Central	12
East	36
West	23
Grand Total	71

The County enrolled in MCE’s Strategic Energy Management Program to increase energy efficiency in County facilities, and staff began work on drafting the County’s Strategic Energy Management Plan, which will serve as an update to the 2001 Energy Reduction Plan and build upon the Distributed Energy Resources Plan (2018)¹.

¹ [Contra Costa County Distributed Energy Resources Plan](#)

Energy Storage

The County has battery storage systems at three facilities, totaling 1,500 kW of capacity. The Board of Supervisors approved an additional project providing up to 500 hours of charging to a bank of EV chargers at the West County Detention Facility.

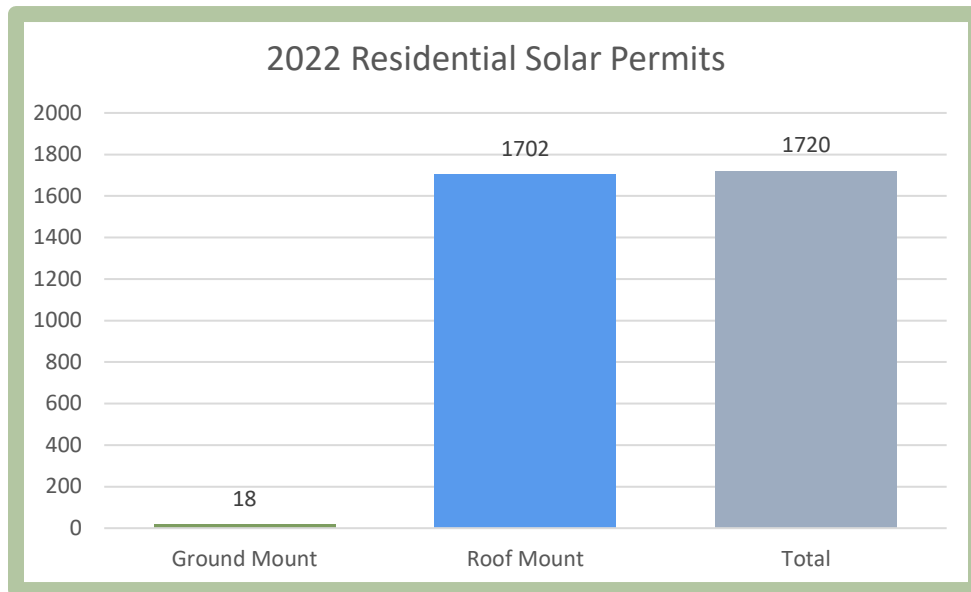
Carbon Neutral County Buildings

Current new construction and major renovations of County facilities include LED lighting; heat pump technology is also considered for these projects. The priority for the second \$2.5 million tranche of the Sustainability Fund will be energy efficiency improvements in County facilities, beginning in 2023.

Rooftop Solar

There were 11 total permits issued for commercial solar installations, including seven rooftop and four ground mount projects. Permits issued for residential solar projects are described in *Figure 3*.

Figure 3: 2022 Residential Solar Permits



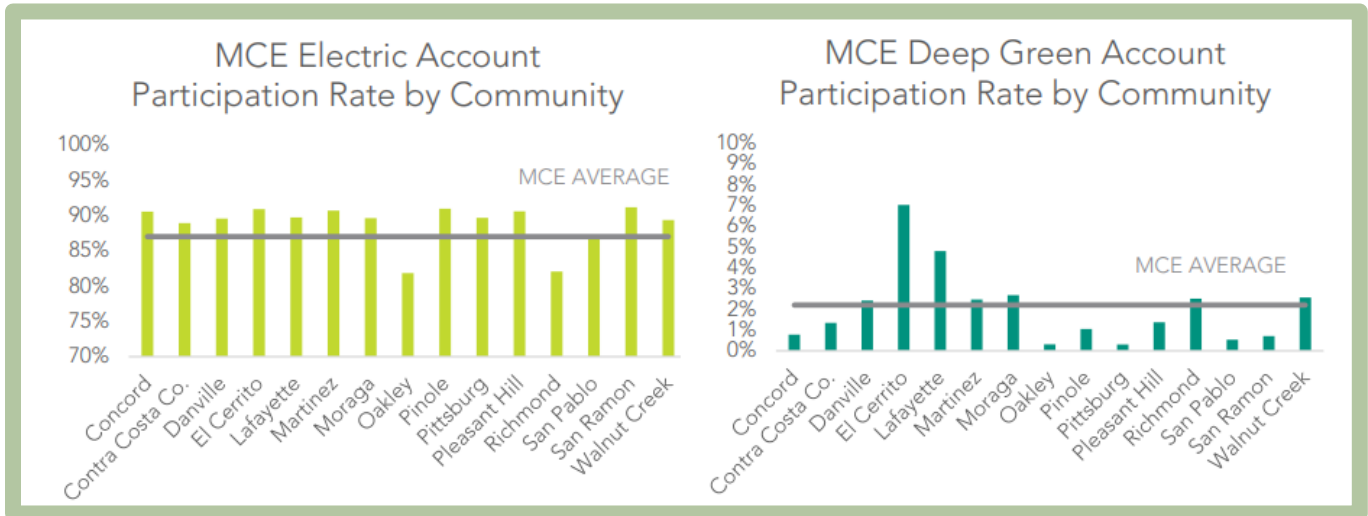
1.2 Replace fossil fuel electricity with renewable electricity

MCE Deep Green Participation

As of December 2022, 88.9% of residential accounts in the unincorporated area of the county are enrolled in MCE, equating to 56,805 accounts. 2% of these accounts are enrolled in MCE's Deep Green electricity service, which provides electricity from 100% renewable energy. As a result of MCE's generation services, an estimated 43,690 metric tons of CO₂ have been reduced in the unincorporated areas of the county. Regarding County facilities, around 70% of County electricity usage is associated

with a Deep Green account. See *Figure 4* for a summary of MCE participation across Contra Costa communities.²

Figure 4: MCE Participation Across Contra Costa Communities



Renewable Electricity in County Facilities

There is 7,332 kW of solar at County facilities serving the County electricity load.

Resilient Communities and Natural Infrastructure

Contra Costa County will increase resilience to climate hazards and foster community health.

2.1 Sequester carbon in natural lands in Contra Costa County

The County has been developing a carbon sequestration feasibility study through a grant from the California Department of Conservation. The study, *Healthy Lands, Healthy People*,³ will identify strategies to store carbon in various land uses across the county, such as agriculture, parks and open space, conservation lands, and towns and cities. Staff will complete the study in April 2023.

See *Figure 5* for the County’s progress to date on implementation of the Green Infrastructure Plan for County facilities. No pervious paving was installed in County projects.

² Only cities and towns that participate in MCE are listed.

³ [Healthy Lands, Healthy People](#)

Figure 5: Progress Report on the Green Infrastructure Plan for County Facilities

Project Name and Location ⁴	Project Description	Planning or Implementation Status	Green Infrastructure Measures Included
Kirker Pass Road Northbound Truck Climbing Lane, Concord	Roadway widening, and relocation of existing roadside features, signing and striping; pavement rehabilitation.	Completed 2021	Bioretention areas. No vegetation is included so minimal maintenance is required.
Central St. GI, Pittsburg Avenue to Brookside Drive, North Richmond Derived from 2200 Central St. (SD15-9423)	Site developed.	Completed 2021	Road drains to bioretention basins.
Pittsburg Avenue GI, Central St. to North Richmond Pkwy, North Richmond Derived from 2200 Central St. (SD15-9423) and 500 Pittsburg Ave. (DP 14 3041)	Site developed.	Estimated completion 2022-2023	Road drains to bioretention basins.
Fred Jackson Way 1 st Mile/Last Mile Urban Greening North Richmond Watershed Connection Project	Sidewalk improvements from Brookside drive to Grove Avenue. Includes bulb outs for street trees.	Completed 2022	StormTree/Filterra C.3 treatment (1).
Fred Jackson Way Rain Garden at the Urban Tilth Farm, North Richmond	Replacement of roadside ditches along 700 feet of Fred Jackson Way with bioretention facilities.	Completed Jan. 2023	Bioretention basin.
Marsh Creek Road Bridge Replacement (Bridge No. 28C0141), on Marsh Creek Road over Marsh Creek, approximately 1.8 mi east of Morgan Territory Road	Bridge replacement. The existing bridge is approaching the end of its useful life.	Construction 2023	Bio swales.
Byron Highway Bridge Replacement over California Aqueduct (Bridge No. 28C0121), on Byron Hwy. 1.4 miles northwest of the Alameda County Line	Bridge replacement. The existing bridge is approaching the end of its useful life.	Construction 2023	Bio swales, bioretention basin.
Brookside Dr., North Richmond, east of Central Street Derived from Sunborne Nurseries (DP 16-3008)	Site developed.	Completion estimated 2023	Road drains to bioretention basins.

⁴ List each planned (and expected to be funded) public and private green infrastructure project that is not also a Regulated Project as defined in Provision C.3.b.ii. Note that funding for green infrastructure components may be anticipated but is not guaranteed to be available or sufficient.

2.2 Address impacts of heat islands

There were 359 residential, in addition to one commercial, permits issued for cool roofs. No cool roofs were implemented at County facilities.

No-Waste Contra Costa

Contra Costa County generates no more solid waste than 2.25 pounds per person per day (PPD).

3.1 Recover organic waste and edible food (Senate Bill (SB) 1383/Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Program)

Enforceable Mechanism to Mandate Organic Waste and Edible Food Recovery

The Board of Supervisors adopted the Organic Waste Disposal Reduction Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2021-38) in December 2021. The ordinance establishes a program to regulate the handling of organic waste in accordance with SB 1383.

Outreach and Education

Staff provided applicable outreach materials to residential and commercial customers. These materials included a notice to organic waste generators via newspaper and updates to the County's solid waste website.

Weekly Organics Collection Services

The Board of Supervisors adopted two updated franchise agreements in June and July 2022 to implement weekly organics service with food waste for central county residential and commercial and east county commercial customers.

Edible Food Recovery

The County has engaged with Edible Food Generators, informing them of the requirements of SB 1383 and providing resources to help reduce food waste.

3.2 Update the County's existing Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy

To comply with Senate Bill 1383, the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Policy was updated to include language addressing per capita procurement requirements for specified recovered organic waste products, or renewable gas, and recycled paper content requirements.

After adoption of the SB 1383 requirements, Public Works collaborated with partners in the Department of Conservation and Development, Health Services, and other County departments to incorporate additional County sustainability priorities into the EPP Policy. The updated EPP Policy was brought to the Sustainability Committee on November 28, 2022, and will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for adoption in early 2023.

Reduce Water Use and Increase Drought Resilience

Contra Costa County uses less water, and communities are prepared for drought.

4.1 Reduce water use in unincorporated County and in County facilities

The County encourages residents and businesses to reduce overall water usage in the unincorporated County. The majority of residents and businesses in the county receive their water from two water agencies, Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD). See *Figure 6* and *Figure 7* for total water usage in the unincorporated areas of the county. There was a slight increase in water usage by CCWD customers in 2022, after a significant decrease in 2021. Though EBMUD water usage data is not available for 2022, there was an overall reduction in water use in 2021.

Figure 6: Contra Costa Water District Gallons Per Year Water Usage

Contra Costa Water District Gallons Per Year Water Usage						
Unincorporated Area	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Per Capita 2022 ⁵
Non-Residential	4,337,634	4,217,697	4,035,898	3,312,475	3,672,240	8,017.991
Residential	8,233,334	8,159,592	9,083,180	7,453,969	7,837,180	2,170.363
All Accounts	12,570,968	12,377,289	13,119,078	10,766,444	11,509,420	2,828.562

Figure 7: Easy Bay Municipal Utility District CCF Per Year Water Usage ⁶

East Bay Municipal Utility District CCF Per Year Water Usage					
Unincorporated Area	2018	2019	2020	2021	Per Capita 2021
Non-Residential	3,683,351	3,681,827	3,779,268	3,837,469	2,891.838
Residential	5,488,289	5,394,742	6,012,011	5,546,508	152.540
All Accounts	9,171,640	9,076,569	9,791,279	9,383,977	248.991

4.2 Manage groundwater resources sustainably

The East Contra Costa Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), approved by the Board of Supervisors, was submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR). The GSP is under review by CDWR, and staff are awaiting comments from CDWR.

Clean Transportation Network

Contra Costa County's transportation network provides safe and accessible options for walking, biking, and transit. If residents and workers are driving, they are in electric vehicles (EVs).

⁵ Per capita water usage is calculated based on the number of CCWD (Figure 6) and EBMUD (Figure 7) accounts.

⁶ Each CCF is equivalent to 748 gallons.

5.1 Reduce vehicle miles traveled in Contra Costa County by increasing number of people who bike, walk, and take public transit

Public Works is working to maintain and expand a countywide bicycle network to increase the safety and comfort of routes across the county. This network includes 80 miles of bikeway in unincorporated county, made up of Class I trails, Class II bike lanes, and Class 3 bike routes.⁷ Recently the County received a grant to fund the Bailey Road Active Transportation Corridor Project, which is in the design phase and expected to include a Class IV bike lane connecting the commercial strip on Willow Pass Road to the Pittsburgh/Bay Point BART station.

To enhance the accessibility and connectivity of active transportation options, the County adopted the Active Transportation Plan⁸ on March 29, 2022. Projects in the plan cover new bicycle facilities, upgraded crossings, enhanced trail connections, improved walkways, and other pedestrian facilities in unincorporated county. Further prioritizing transportation safety, the County adopted the Action Plan from the Vision Zero Final Report⁹ on March 1, 2022, which uses a Safe System Approach with a goal to eliminate fatalities and major injuries on unincorporated roadways.

The 2022 Capital Road Improvement & Preservation Program (CRIPP) was adopted on November 2, 2022. The CRIPP lays out funded transportation projects in the County that provide safe, efficient, and reliable transportation. Currently, there are 33 actively funded projects.

The County's Remote Work Policy remains in effect and is being implemented by departments. Additionally, there were eight employees as of the end of 2022 using the pre-tax commuter benefit.

5.2 Increase percentage of electric vehicles in Contra Costa County fleet

At the end of 2022, there were 31 all-electric vehicles in the County's fleet, making up about 2% of the over 1,600 vehicles in the fleet. The priority of the Sustainability Fund for 2022 is installation of EV chargers at County facilities, and staff is working to implement projects at over 25 sites to facilitate the transition to an all-electric fleet.

Across the entirety of Contra Costa County, there are 881 total public EV chargers, including 630 Level 2 and 251 DC Fast chargers, as of September 30, 2022. Additionally, there are 612 shared private EV chargers, located at locations such as workplaces and multifamily residences.¹⁰ MCE has established numerous EV charging ports in Contra Costa County over the years, as described in *Figure 8*.

Figure 8: EV Charging Ports Installed by MCE in Contra Costa County

EV Charging Ports Installed by MCE in Contra Costa County					
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
6	179	140	29	33	387

⁷ [2022 CRIPP](#), page 10

⁸ [Active Transportation Plan](#)

⁹ [Vision Zero Final Report](#)

¹⁰ [Electric Vehicle Chargers in California, California Energy Commission](#)

Climate Equity

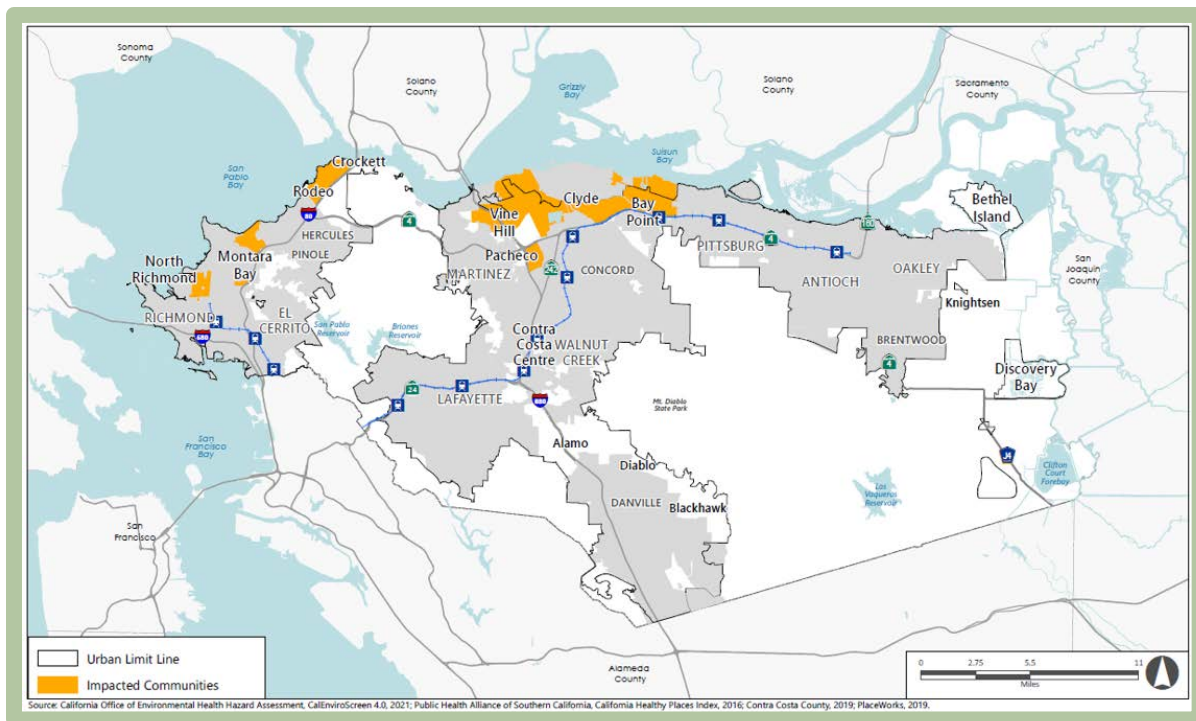
The CAP will mitigate environmental factors leading to health disparities, promote safe and livable communities, and promote investments that improve neighborhood accessibility.

6.1 All residents live in clean, healthy homes and neighborhoods, have access to parks, open space, and fresh food, and can easily move through the County

The updated General Plan will include environmental justice policies. A revised draft of the Environmental Justice Policy Guidance was released in May 2022 and is available on the Envision Contra Costa 2040 website.¹¹ The Stronger Communities Element contains the finalized environmental justice goals, which encompass the equitable distribution of social and economic resources among all communities in the county, healthy neighborhoods, health services, healthy food, healthy homes, arts and culture, workforce development, business and innovation, and community engagement.

The County is working to develop a process to analyze funds spent by County departments on energy efficiency and other services and physical improvements in impacted communities compared to non-impacted communities. See *Figure 9* for a map of the impacted communities in the unincorporated area of the County.

Figure 9: Impacted Communities in Unincorporated Contra Costa County



¹¹ [Envision Contra Costa 2040 Environmental Justice Documents](#)

6.2 Plan for transition to a local economy that is less reliant on fossil fuels

The County is preparing to receive a \$750,000 Community Project Funding grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support the development of a Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan. The funds will support community engagement, economic analysis, specialized studies, and staffing as the County develops a plan to assist frontline communities and workers in the movement from a fossil fuel-based economy to a zero-emission economy. The communities closest to the refineries in Contra Costa County align with the State's impacted communities map and are the intended main beneficiaries of the community revitalization planning effort in the Economic Revitalization Plan.

The Board of Supervisors approved the Project Narrative and Budget, which were submitted to HUD at the end of 2022.

Leadership

Contra Costa County is a model for how local government can take action on climate issues.

7.1 Contra Costa County is a leader among local governments on how it addresses climate issues

Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force

The County's Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force provided two reports to the Board of Supervisors in March and October. The first report gave an overview of the Sustainability Fund, approved by the Board of Supervisors in November 2021 to invest in County facilities; the launch of the Green Government Group (G3) Champions program; and a new online dashboard to track the County's climate action progress. The second report provided an overview of the first \$2.5 million tranche of the Sustainability Fund to be used to install EV chargers at County facilities; a progress update on the G3 Champions; and climate action updates from several County departments.

Green Government Group (G3) Champions

In April, the County launched the G3 Champions program. The G3 Champions form a network of County employees across departments who are focused on making Contra Costa County a cleaner, healthier place to live and work. The Champions meet every two months and have learned about topics including Bike to Work Day, EVs, water conservation, energy efficiency, and recycling and composting. Over 65 employees have signed up, representing 18 County departments.

EBMUD's WaterSmart Certified Business Program

EBMUD's WaterSmart Certified Business Program has merged with the Contra Costa County Green Business Program. There is no update on the number of County departments recognized through the Green Business Program.

7.2 Implement Climate Emergency Resolution

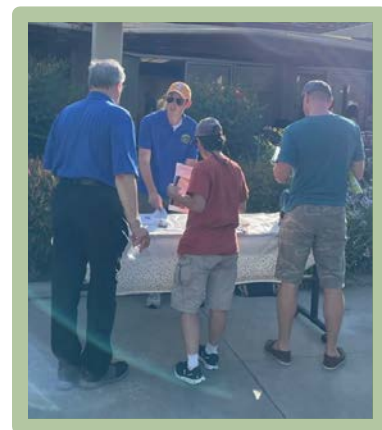
The County has made significant progress towards numerous action items identified in the 2020 Climate Emergency Resolution and continued implementation is ongoing.¹² Accomplishments in 2022 include additional reports to the Board of Supervisors from the Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force; the submittal of documents to HUD for the County to receive a Community Project Funding grant to develop a Just Transition Economic Revitalization Plan; and the adoption and implementation of the All-Electric Ordinance for new construction.

7.3 Build Community and County Employee Support for Climate Action Plan

The County’s Sustainability Team is building its capacity to work and engage with community groups.

As part of its ongoing responsibilities, the Sustainability Team provides administrative support to the Sustainability Committee of the Board of Supervisors and the Sustainability Commission, a 17-member citizen advisory body. The Sustainability Team also facilitates the Sustainability Exchange, a quarterly networking and professional development event for local government staff, and the newly formed Energy Efficiency Collaborative, another quarterly venue with a focus on energy efficiency. Sustainability Team members publish a quarterly *Sustainability Newsletter* and a regular column in the *Contra Costa FOCUS* employee newsletter.¹³

In 2022, the Sustainability Team and its partners hosted seven focus groups at different locations across the county for the *Healthy Lands, Healthy People* carbon sequestration feasibility study. Sustainability Team members attended three community events to talk with community members about BayREN programs. County staff were featured speakers at meetings of the East Bay Leadership Council and Industrial Association of Contra Costa County, and Sustainability Team members presented at conferences, including the American Planning Association, California chapter, and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative.



Sustainability staff table at a community event.

Additional Achievements

In 2022, the Sustainability Commission received reports from the County Treasurer and from the Chief Deputy County Administrator who manages the County’s bond program. Both committed to revising the County’s investment and bond policies to support climate equity goals, including divesting from fossil fuels; evaluating the issuance of labeled bonds or other projects to be funded by municipal securities for “green,” “sustainable,” or “social”; evaluating how to avoid appearances of “greenwashing”; and encouraging local retail investors to purchase County bonds, including labeled bonds. These actions are included in the 2023-2024 CAP Interim Work Plan.

¹² [2020 Climate Emergency Resolution](#)

¹³ [Sustainability in Contra Costa County Newsletter](#)

Conclusion

The County met or made significant progress towards most of the goals included in the 2021-2022 Climate Action Plan Interim Work Plan. As the County continues to develop its updated Climate Action Plan, the County remains accountable and is establishing itself as a leader on climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.