





Climate Action Plans

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[Applicable Blueprint Principles](#) [1]

-  [1]
-  [1]

Applicable Community Size

-  [1]
-  [1]
-  [1]

Since passage of AB 32, The Global Warming Solutions Act (2006), communities throughout California have been identified as a key partner in efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Many local governments have begun to address community and municipal greenhouse gas emissions by updating their general plans to include goals, policies, and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while other have taken a more focused approach and prepared a Climate Action Plan (CAP) or sustainability plan.

CAPs are comprehensive roadmaps that outline the specific municipal operations activities and communitywide efforts that a local government will undertake to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. CAPs build upon the information gathered by greenhouse gas inventories and generally focus on those activities that can achieve the relatively greatest emission reductions in the most cost effective manner. CAPs typically focus on quantifying existing and projected community-wide greenhouse gas emissions; establishing greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets; identifying and analyzing future greenhouse gas emissions; identifying specific, enforceable measures that will achieve the emissions targets; and establishing a mechanism to monitor the plan's progress.

Related Smart Growth Principal: [Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas](#) [2]

[Support actions that encourage environmental resource management](#) [3]

Related Community Type: [Large](#) [4]

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Attachments **Case Studies:** [The City of Burlington, Vermont: On Champlain with a Plan](#) [7]

[U.S. Local Sustainability Plans and Climate Action Plans \(2009\)](#) [8]

[Solano County Climate Action Plan: Community Toolkit \(2010\)](#) [9]

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[Tulare County Climate Action Plan](#) [18]

Other Resources: [Sustainability and General Plans: Examples of Policies to Address Climate Change \(2010\)](#) [19]

[Issue Paper on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Reduction Strategies \(2007\)](#) [20]



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A joint initiative of San Joaquin Valley Councils of Governments representing each of the region's eight counties, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, the Great Valley Center, and the Fresno State Community and Regional Planning Center

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