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Climate Action Plans: The Role of Local Government



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Why do you need a Climate Action Plan?

You care about the environment.

Your constituents care.



You are in a position to make an impact that reaches beyond
your own operations.

Possible regulation down the road.



But.... Take-home Message

You don't need a complete
climate action plan
before implementing measures to
save energy and save money!



Global Warming Solutions Act AB 32

- ▶ Sets statewide GHG emissions cap: 1990 emissions levels by 2020.
- ▶ Provides for regulatory and market mechanisms.
- ▶ California Air Resources Board (ARB) responsible for coordinating GHG emission reduction strategies.
- ▶ Major components include:
 - Early action measures to reduce GHG emissions
 - Mandatory GHG emissions reporting
 - Plan for GHG reductions



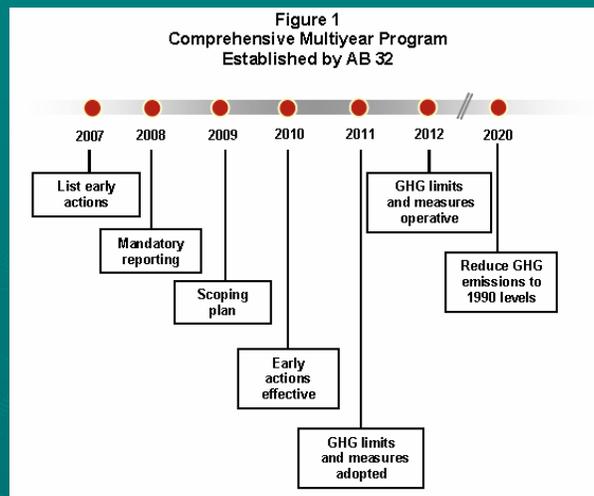


Implementation of AB 32

- ▶ Climate Action Team will coordinate
- ▶ ARB will implement
- ▶ Advisory Committees
 - Environmental Justice Advisory Committee,
 - Economic and Technology Advancement Advisory Committee, and
 - Market Advisory Committee.



Timeline for AB 32



Source: CalEPA, April 2007, Proposed Early Actions to Mitigate Climate Change in California



Impact on Local Governments

- ▶ Local Governments currently not slated for mandatory reporting rule to be adopted in January 2008.
- ▶ ARB developing "Guidance Protocols for local governments to facilitate GHG reductions" during the 2007-2009 period.
- ▶ ARB and CCAR in communication with ICLEI regarding development of local government inventory protocol.



Resources for Governments

Program/ Agency	Goal	Services	Reporting Required?	Tools/ Assistance	Fee/ Cost	Public Recognition
Sustainable Silicon Valley	Set own goal	Educational forums, workshops, Energy Watch Program with PC&E and SVLC	Yes, annually. Electricity, natural gas, fleet fuel.	Simple reporting tool on energy use by city-owned facilities, fleets, employee commutes. Free audits for EWP.	Annual Fee \$1,000	Yes - on website and in annual report
ICLEI - Cities for Climate Protection	Set own goal	Software for on-going monitoring.	As Step 5 - usually after 3-5 years	Toolkit for creating an action plan provided. Provides inventory & policy assistance	Annual Fee sliding scale	Yes - on website and public relations efforts
ABA, CFC&E Energy Watch Partnership	No target required	Identify Energy Efficiency options; offer rebates for implementation	None	Provides technical assistance and information services.	None	On website
Silicon Valley Leadership Group	No target required	Educational events; Energy Watch Program with PC&E and SVV	None	Free audits for EWP.	Annual fee sliding scale	
U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement	7% below 1990 by 2012 (Kyoto)	None	None	None	None	
California Action Climate Registry	No target required	General Protocol gives guidance on how to inventory GHG emissions.	Yes, annually. 6 GHGs; must certify your inventory.	Web-based tool, CARROT, calculates GHG emissions. Personalized training on CARROT.	Annual Fee \$400-\$4,000. Plus required third party certification.	Yes - on website.
Joint Venture Silicon Valley Network	No Target required	Climate Change Task Force to identify and address cities' climate action needs	None	Exploring purchasing pool, inventory grants	None currently	



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SSV REGIONAL
 CO₂ REDUCTION GOAL:  20% below 1990 levels by 2010

To Achieve this Goal:

 Engage and Support governments, businesses, and non-governmental organizations that pledge to reduce their CO₂ emissions and report to SSV annually.



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Government/Academia Partners of Sustainable Silicon Valley

- City of Morgan Hill
- City of Palo Alto
- City of San Jose
- City of San Mateo
- City of Santa Clara
- City of Sunnyvale
- Town of Los Altos Hills
- Town of Portola Valley
- County of San Mateo
- County of Santa Clara
- Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- Foothill-DeAnza Community College District
- Palo Alto Unified School District
- San Francisco International Airport
- Santa Clara University
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
- Santa Clara Valley Water District



Remember

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Sample Goals

- ▶ City of Palo Alto:
 - First year with SSV, goals pertained to just 2 buildings
 - Now, climate-neutral electricity/natural gas usage by 2010
- ▶ County of San Mateo:
 - 10% below 2005 by 2010
- ▶ City of San Mateo:
 - Mayors' Agreement = 7% below 1990 by 2012 or better
- ▶ City of San Jose:
 - 25% below 1990 by 2012
 - Decreasing in stages to 80% below 1990 by 2045





Sample Actions Taken

- ▶ Bay Area Air Quality Management District:
 - Converting vehicle fleet to hybrids
 - Modernizing HVAC
 - Works with community to promote climate protections
- ▶ City of Palo Alto:
 - Uses methane from landfill
 - Utility purchases green energy
- ▶ City of San Jose:
 - Retrofit equipment and lighting for improved efficiency
- ▶ San Francisco International Airport:
 - Retrofit lighting
 - Solar panels
 - CNG for fueling
- ▶ Town of Los Altos Hills
 - Solar panels provide 40% of electricity at town hall



Sample Financial Savings

- ▶ City of San Jose:
 - Avoided \$21.95 million in energy costs since 2001.
- ▶ Palo Alto:
 - Energy saving software alone saves \$17,000 each year.
 - Methane recovery saving \$250,000/year
- ▶ County of Santa Clara:
 - Saving nearly \$1 million per year in energy costs.



Identifying Cost Savings Potential

- ▶ First steps in GHG emissions reductions are
 - energy conservation
 - energy efficiency
- ▶ Energy Watch Programs help obtain incentives and rebates
- ▶ Actions today can be accounted for in inventory process



Conducting the Inventory

- ▶ Can pledge with SSV on just a building to get started
- ▶ Complexity depends on extent of gases and sources
 - SSV: CO₂ as calculated from electricity, natural gas, fleet fuel
 - CCAR: 6 GHGs from stationary and mobile sources, must be certified
- ▶ ICLEI: can provide help with inventory
- ▶ In-house inventory is ideal so the staff is familiar with the data



Pledging with SSV

- ▶ Education and Information sharing:
 - Monthly meetings – learn from other partners
 - Quarterly forums – learn from experts
 - One-on-one contacts and referrals
- ▶ Expand impact to businesses and other organizations:
 - City operations typically 3-5% of total emissions of jurisdiction
 - SSV partners include major corporations, smaller businesses and NGOs
- ▶ Share the financial savings potential:
 - SSV/SVLG Energy Watch Program supports businesses as well as governments
- ▶ Gain exposure in the community
- ▶ Flexible goals, simple reporting



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San Mateo County's co-gen



City of Palo Alto
LED traffic light



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