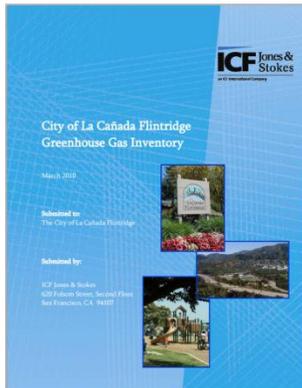


The City of La Cañada Flintridge is preparing a Climate Action Plan (CAP)!

The City of La Cañada Flintridge is working to prepare a Climate Action Plan (CAP) to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions within the community, while maintaining or improving the quality of life for residents. The CAP is intended to build on the community's existing sustainability efforts to facilitate the reduction of GHG emissions throughout the City of La Cañada Flintridge in a way that is practical, efficient, and beneficial to the community and enhances La Cañada Flintridge's desirable characteristics and qualities.

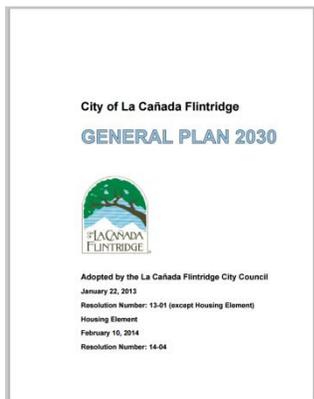
Background: La Cañada Flintridge's Existing Sustainability Efforts

La Cañada Flintridge has made significant progress towards the mitigation of environmental and climate related impacts associated with the City and Community's footprint. This has been accomplished both internally and in conjunction with San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, the Southern California Association of Governments, Southern California Gas, and Southern California Edison. These efforts are summarized below and have provided the framework from which to build a comprehensive GHG reduction strategy.



Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2010)

In 2010, the City of La Cañada Flintridge developed a 2007 inventory and estimated 1990 and 2020 GHG emissions and sinks for City government operations ("government inventory") and the entire City ("community inventory"). The 2007 inventory was based on actual 2007 activity data and emission factors. The government and community GHG inventories formed a baseline from which the City could establish GHG reduction targets. Click [here](#) for the complete GHG Inventory.

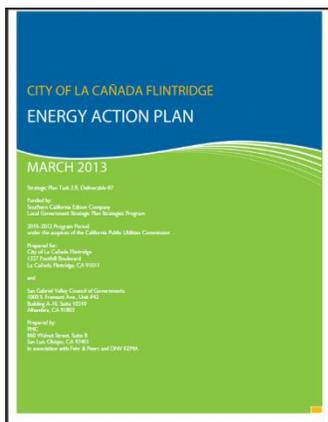


General Plan (2013)

The City Council adopted a new General Plan on January 22, 2013. The General Plan is the document that guides the City's current and long term growth and development through a series of policy statements called "elements." The Safety Element includes goals, objectives and policies that support climate adaptation. The Land Use, Open Space/Recreation, Conservation, Circulation and Air Quality elements include goals, objectives and policies that support the reduction of GHG emissions. Click [here](#) for the complete General Plan Update. The Air Quality Element also includes the following goal, objective, and policies which specifically call for the preparation of a Climate Action Plan:

AQ GOAL 4: Reduce GHG emissions from all activities within the City boundaries to support the State’s efforts under AB 32 and to mitigate the impact of climate change.

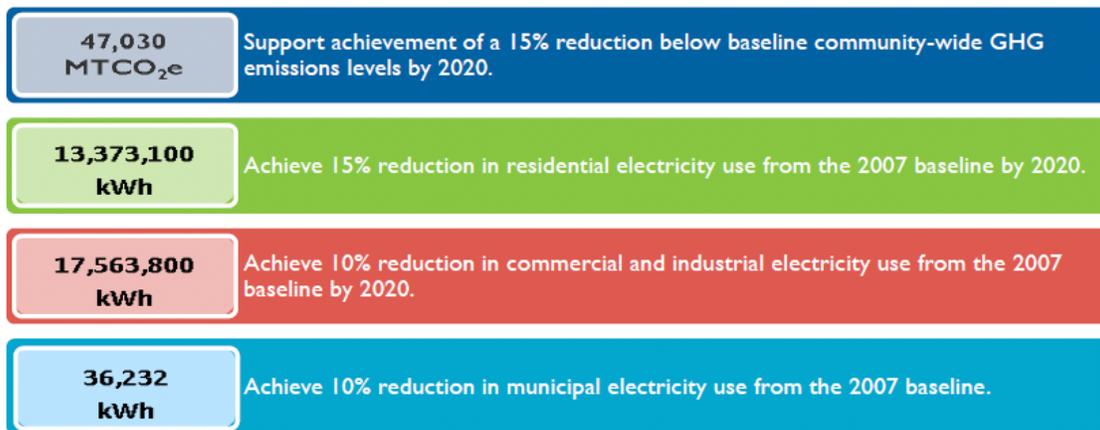
- ***AQ Objective 4.1: By 2020, reduce GHG emissions from within the City’s boundaries to a level 15 percent less than the level that would otherwise occur if all activities continued under a “business as usual” scenario.***
 - ***AQ Policy 4.1.1: Prepare a Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP), in collaboration with the stakeholders from the community at large, which will include measures to incentivize and support reductions in GHG emissions from community activities, and which will seek to reduce emissions by at least 15 percent by 2020 compared to the 2007 baseline community emissions inventory (including any reductions required by the ARB under AB 32).***
 - ***AQ Policy 4.1.2: Establish a Municipal Climate Action Plan (MCAP), which will include measures to reduce GHG emissions from municipal activities by at least 15 percent by 2020 compared to the 2007 baseline municipal emissions inventory (including any reductions required by the ARB under AB 32).***
 - ***AQ Policy 4.1.3: Update the City’s GHG emissions inventories, which include emissions from all sectors within the City, as necessary to incorporate improved methods, better data, and more accurate tools and methods, and to assess progress.***



Energy Action Plan (2013)

The City Council adopted the Energy Action Plan for La Cañada Flintridge on March 4, 2013. The Energy Action Plan (EAP) demonstrates the City’s commitment to pursue energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions. The purpose of the EAP was to identify the City of La Cañada Flintridge’s long-term vision and commitment to achieve energy efficiency in the community and in municipal operations. The EAP serves as the equivalent of an electricity efficiency portion of a CAP and is designed to be integrated into a comprehensive CAP. Click [here](#) for the complete EAP.

The EAP includes the following energy efficiency targets:



What is Covered in this Project?

The project involves the preparation of a Climate Action Plan consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines’ definition of a “Qualified Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy” (Section 15183.5).

It is anticipated that the CAP will include (but is not limited to) the following elements:

- An introduction providing GHG and climate action context and background information.
- A summary of the baseline GHG emissions, business-as-usual emission forecast, and adjusted emission forecast.
- A description of the City’s targets and their consistency with Assembly Bill 32 and Executive Order S-3-05.
- A list of the climate action measures, including implementation actions, GHG reduction potentials, costs and savings.
- An implementation and monitoring strategy.
- A consistency checklist/worksheet that future proposed projects may use, upon CAP adoption, to demonstrate consistency with the CAP.
- A technical appendix detailing the methods, assumptions, and data sources used to calculate GHG reduction potentials, costs, and savings.

Updated Baseline Conditions

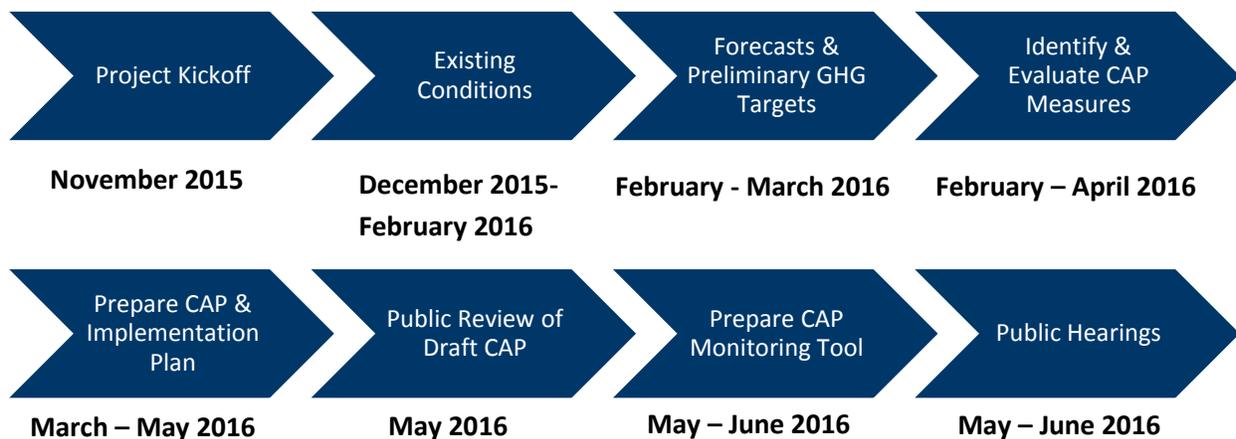
This project also involves the development of updated GHG inventories of: (1) emissions associated with municipal operations, and (2) emissions associated with all activities taking place citywide. The GHG emissions inventories will establish an updated baseline year (anticipated to be 2013 or 2014, depending on availability of necessary data).

2020 & 2035 Forecasts

Upon completion of the baseline GHG emissions inventories, the team will forecast “business-as-usual” and “adjusted” GHG emissions for the years 2020 and 2035 to tie in with AB 32 and SB 375 target years.

Tentative Project Schedule

This project will be completed in approximately 8 months with the Final Climate Action Plan due to be presented to the City Council for adoption in June 2016.



How to Get Involved

This is a collaborative, open, transparent, and inclusive process engaging residents, employees, businesses, community organizations, and elected officials throughout the City of La Cañada Flintridge.

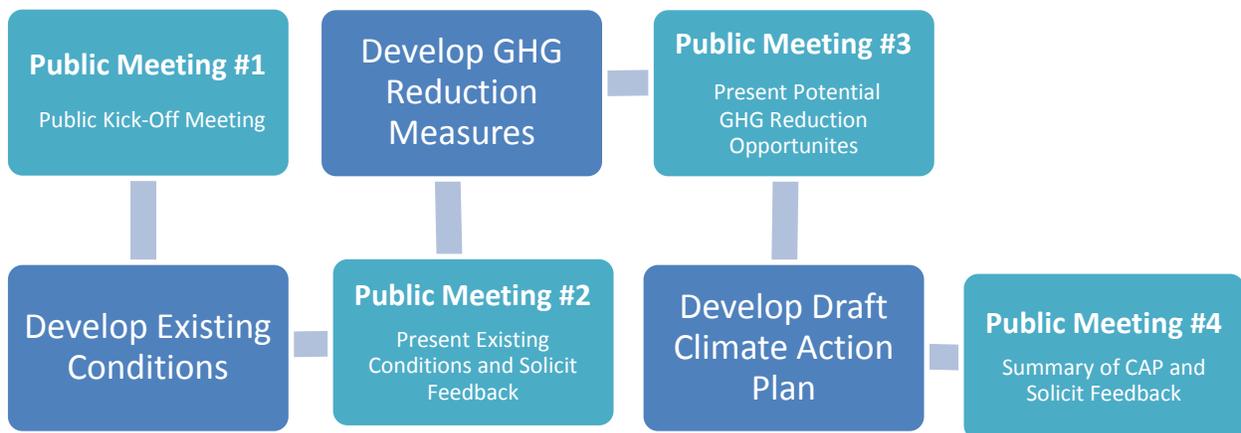
Project Website

Here you will find all the latest information about the development of the Climate Action Plan including:

- Project information and overview and purpose of the Climate Action Plan
- Listing of all meetings and workshops
- Presentations and materials produced for public meetings and workshops
- Drafts and materials produced for the Climate Action Plan, as well as CEQA document
- Library with all relevant documents
- Public survey (to be posted)

Meetings and Workshops

Over the course of the project, the City will be hosting four public meetings/workshops to engage the community regarding the development of the Climate Action Plan. Your attendance is encouraged but if you can't make a meeting, don't worry. We will be posting all meeting agendas, materials, and minutes so you can keep track of the process. If you are unable to attend meetings in person please direct all comments and questions to Christina McAdams at cmcadams@rinconconsultants.com. We welcome your input!



Public Meeting #1: Public Kick-Off Meeting

The first public workshop will be held at **6:00 p.m., Thursday February 11, 2016** at the City Council Chambers at La Cañada Flintridge City Hall, 1327 Foothill Boulevard, La Cañada Flintridge. This meeting will introduce the project and the planning process as well as summarize the background, scope, and goals of the project and discuss ways to participate throughout the planning process. This will be an open, inclusive, and collaborative process. We welcome your input!

Public Meeting #2: Present Existing Conditions and Solicit Feedback

The second public meeting will be held following the completion of the existing conditions assessment and 2014 GHG Inventory. This meeting will focus on presenting the results of the existing conditions assessment and GHG Inventory and will provide valuable information regarding progress and other changes since the 2007 GHG Inventory and 2013 Energy Action Plan. This meeting is anticipated to be held in March 2016.

Public Meeting #3: Present Potential GHG Reduction Strategies

The third public meeting will be held during the CAP development process, following the establishment of a preliminary set of GHG reduction opportunities. The purpose of the meeting will be to present measures that can be voluntarily implemented at the residential or business level. The focus will be educational to provide the community with the resources and tools necessary to explore individual GHG-reduction measure implementation. The meeting will discuss financial incentives, cost-savings, payback period, and steps to take if interested in pursuing available opportunities. The meeting will also serve as a venue to receive public input on individual GHG-reduction measures, including concerns and constraints, which can be vetted as part of the Draft CAP development and the final public meeting. This meeting is anticipated to be held in April 2016.

Public Meeting #4: Summary of CAP and Solicit Feedback

The final public meeting will be held during the public comment period for the Draft CAP. At this meeting, community members will have the opportunity to review the Draft CAP prior to the public meeting. The meeting present the Draft CAP to the community and provide an opportunity to gather public input on the GHG-reduction measures and implementation plan. This meeting is anticipated to be held in May 2016.

Public Hearings

In addition to the four public meetings, public input will also be received at four public hearings on the Draft CAP. The purpose of these hearings will be to present the findings of the public outreach process along with the Draft CAP. It is anticipated that the initial Planning Commission hearing will be held in May 2016, following completion of the Draft CAP. Subsequent Planning Commission hearings and City Council hearings will be scheduled between May and June 2016, based on the input received on the Draft CAP and the needs and schedules of the Planning Commission, City Council, and City staff.

Community Organization Presentations/Interviews

Throughout the course of the project presentations and interviews will be conducted with various community-based organizations, service groups, and/or stakeholders to generate interest in the project and gather additional public input. If your organization is interested in being part of this outreach component please contact Christina McAdams at cmcadams@rinconconsultants.com.

Social Media

Visit our social media sites to participate in the planning process and stay up to date regarding project progress and upcoming opportunities for participation. Stay tuned for a community participation photo campaign. We will also be working closely with local news media in the area to get the word out about the planning process and ways people can participate.



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/cityoflacanadaflintridge>



Twitter <https://twitter.com/theCityofLCF>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is a Climate Action Plan?

A: A Climate Action Plan is a detailed and strategic framework for measuring, planning, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and anticipated climatic impacts. Local governments design and utilize Climate Action Plans as customized road maps for making informed decisions and understanding where and how to achieve the largest and most cost-effective emissions reductions that are in alignment with other municipal and community goals. Climate Action Plans generally include an inventory of existing and projected greenhouse gas emissions, a reduction goal or target, measures or actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, an analysis of each measure's reduction potential, costs and savings, and an implementation and monitoring strategy that identifies required resources and funding mechanisms.

Q: Why is the Climate Action Plan being prepared?

A: Assembly Bill 32 establishes a target to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. In order to achieve this target, the California Air Resources Board calls on local governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent from 2005 levels by 2020, consistent with the statewide commitment. Senate Bill 97 requires lead agencies to analyze greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). These laws together create a framework for greenhouse gas emissions reductions and identify local governments as having a vital role to play in assisting the state in meeting California's reduction target. Recognizing the important role and responsibility that local governments have in reducing GHG emissions and mitigating their potential impacts, the City of La Cañada Flintridge is preparing a Climate Action Plan, consistent with the recently updated General Plan, to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of GHG reduction efforts, demonstrate consistency with Assembly Bill 32, and mitigate their GHG emissions impact.

Q: What are the benefits of a Climate Action Plan?

A: In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, implementation of the Climate Action Plan will help achieve multiple community goals such as lowering energy costs, reducing air and water pollution, downtown revitalization, supporting local economic development, and improving public health and quality of life. The Climate Action would also create consistency and predictability in the way project level GHG impacts and mitigation measures are analyzed and imposed.

Q: How will the GHG reduction goals of the Climate Action Plan be achieved?

A: The goals of the Climate Action Plan will be achieved through a series of GHG emission reduction measures that will be outlined in the document. The measures will build on and maintain consistency with the cities' existing planning documents and be selected based on careful consideration of local conditions, public input, potential costs and benefits, existing opportunities and resources, and emissions reduction potential. Some measures may include incentive programs for individuals and businesses to increase efficiency and reduce costs. Categories that the reduction measures may fall into include Mobility and Land Use, Energy and Water Conservation, Waste Reduction, and Urban Greening. Public participation will be very important in development of the greenhouse gas emission reduction measures and throughout the development of the Climate Action Plan. Please refer to the Get Involved section of this website to find out how to participate in the development of the GHG reduction measures and Climate Action Plan.

Q: Who is involved in developing the CAP?

A: A local consultant team led by Rincon Consultants under contract to the City will lead the preparation of the Climate Action Plan. Public input from residents, businesses, community organizations, and elected officials will be solicited throughout the process to ensure that the plan is crafted to meet the unique needs and goal of the city, with final decision-making regarding measure selection and Climate Action Plan adoption up to the City Council.

Q: What happens if the City Council doesn't adopt the Climate Action Plan?

A: It is ultimately the City Council's decision whether to adopt the Climate Action Plan. It is important to note that the plan will be prepared with extensive local public input, as well as input from decision makers and stakeholders. There are no penalties if a local jurisdiction fails to adopt its Climate Action Plan; however, the City would not be able to demonstrate it is comprehensively mitigating greenhouse gas emissions consistent with Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 97. In addition, project applicants would not benefit from the CEQA streamlining opportunities provided by a Climate Action Plan. Additionally, co-benefits of Climate Action Plan policies, including reduced energy costs, may not be realized.

Q: How is preparation of the Climate Action Plan being funded?

A: Preparation of the Climate Action Plan is 100% funded through a grant from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).