

4. 25-54438 Recommendation to review the 2025 Office of Climate Action and Sustainability Work Plan, provide input to staff, and forward to City Council for approval.

Suggested Action: Approve recommendation.



LONG BEACH
Office of Climate Action
& Sustainability

2025 WORK PLAN

DRAFT 02/27/2025

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INTRODUCTION

The City Council adopted the Long Beach Climate Action Plan (LB CAP) in August 2022, which includes climate mitigation goals aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and climate adaptation goals that focus on preparing for the negative impact climate change has on infrastructure, services, and the well-being of the community. The Office of Climate Action & Sustainability (OCS) 2025 Work Plan details the next steps City staff will take to implement the LB CAP and support sustainable programming.

CITY LEADERSHIP & FUNDING

LB CAP Update

- Evaluate baseline greenhouse gas (GHG) assumptions and projects to determine what remains to be completed
- Develop metrics to determine which remaining LB CAP goals and actions have the biggest impact to GHG reductions
- Identify new goals and actions necessary to satisfy new regulatory requirements and further reduce GHG emissions based on current GHG emissions inventory
- Complete community outreach and produce an update to the LB CAP document

Climate Budget Recommendations

- Work with Climate Champions to determine top climate-related funding priorities that reduce GHG emissions and implement the LB CAP, and submit budget recommendations for consideration
- Work with Climate Resilient and Sustainable City Commission to determine top climate-related funding priorities and communicate Commission funding priorities to City Council

Commission Advisory Actions

- Work with Climate Resilient and Sustainable City Commission to develop advisory recommendations in support of LB CAP implementation and communicate Commission advisory recommendations to City Council, including but not limited to:

CITY LEADERSHIP & FUNDING

- Incorporating provisions for electrification and stretch codes into the upcoming building code update
- Exploring the feasibility of microgrids and re-evaluating Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) models
- Incorporating greater low impact development measures in public projects (water capture, permeable pavement, etc.)
- Increasing bike and pedestrian improvements to support Vision Zero goals included in the City's Safe Streets Action Plan
- Increasing awareness of local air quality and its impacts on community health (tracking, reporting, educating)
- Encouraging resilient, climate-forward, and sustainable practices into Long Beach Olympics planning and subsequent contracts to ensure sustainable and climate-friendly games for community and visitors
- Increasing the tracking and use of climate-related data and encouraging using climate data in decision-making

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ITEMS

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Dashboard

- Publish 2023 Greenhouse Gas Inventory Dashboard
- Begin the collection of data for the 2022 and 2024 Municipal greenhouse gas emissions inventories
- Work with the Technology & Innovation Department on the expansion of the Climate Portal to show action item progress

Climate Champions & Climate Mobilization Teams

- Facilitate Climate Champions and Climate Mobilization Team to coordinate and progress LB CAP implementation
- Continue to collect updates and track action item progress using Microsoft Lists
- Publish the 2024 LB CAP Annual Report transparently demonstrating action item progress and accomplishments

Grant Funding

- Identify external funding opportunities to support LB CAP implementation

Government Affairs

- Develop state and federal legislative agenda items to help implement LB CAP strategies
- Explore support for additional funding for LB CAP actions and climate-related projects

- Participate in the development of a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) for our Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) that includes a GHG report and qualitative and quantitative action items

Staff Communications & Training

- Implement a comprehensive media strategy plan and develop educational materials/promotion for the LB CAP
- Collaborate with other departments on events and external communications

LB CAP Action Item Implementation

- Begin or continue work on the following LB CAP Actions assigned to OCS:
 - Building and Energy
 - BE-1. Provide Access to Renewably Generated Electricity
 - BE-2. Increase Use of Solar Power
 - BE-3. Promote Community Solar and Microgrids
 - BE-4. Develop a Residential and Commercial Energy Assessment and Benchmarking Program
 - BE-5. Provide Access to Energy Efficiency Financing, Rebates, and Incentives for Building Owners
 - BE-6: Perform municipal energy and water audits
 - BE-8: Implement short-term measures to reduce emissions related to oil and gas extraction
 - Transportation
 - T-5. Develop an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Master Plan

- Extreme Heat
 - EH-1. Increase Presence of Cool Roofs and Cool Walls
 - EH-3. Enhance and Expand Urban Forest Cover and Vegetation
 - EH-5. Identify Future Vulnerability Potential for Power Outages Related to Extreme Heat and Develop Plans to Prevent Such Outages
- Air Quality
 - AQ-2. Encourage Urban Agriculture Practices that Reduce Air Quality
 - AQ-3. Support the Development of the Long Beach Airport Sustainability Plan
 - AQ-7. Increase monitoring and regulation of oil extraction and refining process
- Drought
 - DRT-1. Continue Development and Implementation of Water Use Efficiency Programs and Implement Additional Water Conservation Programs
 - DRT-2. Enhance Outreach and Education Related to Water Conservation
 - DRT-3. Expand Usage of Green Infrastructure and Green Streets
 - DRT-4. Expand Usage of Recycled Water and Greywater for Non-Potable Use
 - DRT-5. Incorporate Increased Rainfall Capture and Other Actions to Maximize Local Water Supplies and Offset Imported Water
- Sea Level Rise and Flooding
 - FLD-3. Establish a Flood Impacts Monitoring Program

POLICIES, PROGRAMS, & SERVICES

Disadvantaged Community GHG-Reduction Program

Partners: Long Beach Utilities, Energy Resources

LB CAP Sectors/Stressors: Extreme Heat, Building & Energy, Air Quality

- Launch a residential greenhouse gas reduction program to benefit residents located in disadvantaged community census tracts.
- Metrics: # of homes assisted

LEED for Cities

Partners: Public Works; Parks, Recreation & Marine; Long Beach Utilities, Community Development; Health and Human Services, Office of Equity

LB CAP Sectors/Stressors: Air Quality, Drought, Building & Energy

- Coordinate the LEED for Cities certification process and establish a baseline for continuous monitoring of city performance.
- Metrics: For LEED certification, the City must be awarded 40 of the possible 100 points available

Mulch Delivery and Pick-up

Partners: West Coast Arborists, Conservation Corps of LB

LB CAP Sectors/Stressors: Air Quality, Drought, Waste

- Continue the mulch delivery and pick-up programs that benefit residents and local organizations. Implement streamlined reservation and delivery strategies to clear backlog. Establish a permanent location and signage at Willow Springs Park.
- Metrics: # of deliveries made, # of tons picked up

Tree Planting Program

Partners: Public Works, Conservation Corps of LB

LB CAP Sectors/Stressors: Extreme Heat, Air Quality, Sea Level Rise & Flooding

- Continue parkway tree plantings upon request through the Tree Planting Program. Coordinate monthly community tree plantings during planting season (Oct-Jun). Work with Conservation Corps of Long Beach to plant additional trees in high-priority areas. Develop Urban Forest Master Plan and hire Urban Forest Coordinator to implement plan using federal grant award funding.
- Metrics: # of trees planted, # of trees watered

Urban Agriculture Initiatives

Partners: Community Development, Health and Human Services

LB CAP Sector/Stressor: Air Quality

- Administer the Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone program, conduct outreach, and provide matchmaking services to encourage adoption on vacant lots in Long Beach.
- Develop a micro-grants program to support urban farms, teaching gardens, and community gardens.
- Metrics: # of UAIZ contracts, # of Microgrants awarded

Watershed and Urban Forestry Initiatives

Partners: Public Works, Conservation Corps of LB

LB CAP Sectors/Stressors: Extreme Heat, Air Quality, Drought, Sea Level Rise & Flooding

- Identify and implement multi-benefit stormwater quality improvements within targeted sub-watersheds along the Los Angeles River through the planting of street trees and other best management practices.
- Metrics: # of LID BMPs installed

Green Workforce Development

Partners: Bay Area Community Resources (BACR), CA Volunteers, Economic Development

LB CAP Sectors/Stressors: Extreme Heat, Air Quality, Drought, Sea Level Rise & Flooding

- Host California Climate Action Corps Fellows who support and lead projects focused on urban greening in frontline communities most impacted by the effects of climate change. Our fellows support our tree planting program, participate in outreach, host volunteer events, run monthly Willows Walks at the park, manage social media campaigns, and are involved in other public education programming.
- Urban Greening Field Crew (formally Youth Climate Corps): Recruit, hire, train, and supervise Field Crew team members that will assist with tree planting, mulch delivery, and restoration activities.
- Metrics: # of Fellows placed, # of field crew employed

Green Infrastructure

Partners: Community Development, Parks, Recreation & Marine, Public Works, Utilities

LB CAP Sectors/Stressors: Extreme Heat, Air Quality, Drought, Sea Level Rise & Flooding, Building and Energy, Waste

- Explore opportunities for green infrastructure policies and procedures including, but not limited to, permeable pavement, bioswales, tree planting/removals, waste goals, and other sustainable construction materials. Begin to revisit prior-adopted green policies to determine effectiveness and determine appropriate updates. Evaluate adoption of green rating systems designed to meet CAP actions (LEED for Cities, WELL, etc.)
- Metrics: # of policies reviewed/updated

WILLOW SPRINGS PARK

Environmental Stewardship

Partners: Friends of Willow Springs, Leadership Long Beach, Aquarium of the Pacific, Conservation Corps of LB

- Provide public engagement and service through participatory fieldwork at Willow Springs Park (MLK Jr. Day of Service, Monarch Day of Action, Restoration Fridays). Identify opportunities to engage youth, families, and older adults.
- Metrics: # of attendees at events

Park Support and Native Plant Nursery

Partners: Parks, Recreation & Marine, Conservation Corps of LB

LB CAP Sectors/Stressors: Extreme Heat, Air Quality

- Support park activation and maintenance through community programs and continue to develop the Native Plant Nursery, support local pollinator populations, develop public art opportunities, and provide native plant workshops.
- Metrics: # of residents engaged, # of plants installed

Events

Partners: Friends of Willow Springs, Leadership Long Beach, Aquarium of the Pacific, Conservation Corps of LB, LB Recycles, LB Utilities, Future LB

- City Nature Challenge

- Plan and coordinate the largest event hosted at Willow Springs Park. Support partners in providing crafts, resources, and interactive games to highlight the outdoors while promoting their services and programs. Encourage visitors to become community scientists by observing and recording local flora and fauna for further scientific research via the iNaturalist app.
- Monarch Day of Action
 - Plan and coordinate spring kickoff event hosted at Willow Springs Park. Incorporate community resources, support relationship building between departments, and invite the community to support restoration efforts to protect endangered and at-risk local fauna.
- Restoration Fridays
 - Plan and implement monthly Restoration Friday events that engage community volunteers in native plant restoration expansion efforts at Willow Springs Park.
- Willow Walks
 - Monthly guided nature walks through Willow Springs Park meant to introduce the park's flora and fauna to the community.
- Metrics: # of attendees at events

OUTREACH & EVENTS

Environmental Education and Special Events

Partners: Friends of Willow Springs, Library Services, Parks, Recreation & Marine, Long Beach City College, Health and Human Services, Public Works, LB Recycles, Southern California Edison, GRID Alternatives, LB Utilities, LBUSD, CSULB

- Coordinate expanding opportunities for sustainability education and special events, including Earth Month activities, workshops, online features, etc.
- Metrics: # of attendees at events

Ranchos Walk

Partners: Public Works, Community Development, Health and Human Services, Walk Long Beach

- Coordinate the planning and execution of the Ranchos Walk in partnership with City departments and community partners.
- Metrics: # of attendees at events

Website Updates and Social Media Campaigns

Partners: Public Affairs, Technology and Innovation

- Plan and execute regular updates to the Office's website. Plan and execute a variety of social media campaigns promoting our events, partnerships, and restoration efforts. Develop new video content and programming series to increase community climate action education.
- Metrics: # of followers, # of posts published per series, # of post views/interactions

GRANTS

ClimateLB Microgrant Program

Partners: Office of Youth Development

- The ClimateLB Microgrant Program is supported by the Bloomberg-Philanthropies-led Youth Climate Action Fund. ClimateLB will provide microgrants to support youth-led climate action projects focused in West Long Beach.

Neighbor-to-Neighbor

Partners: Parks, Marine, and Rec & City Fabrick

- The Neighbor-to-Neighbor Program aims to strengthen communities by bringing residents together through educational activities and local action. The program fosters connections to help address local needs and promote environmental stewardship.

CLIMATE RESILIENT & SUSTAINABLE CITY COMMISSION

The 2025 Commission meetings are planned to provide an update on progress towards LB CAP goals and other Office programs, services, and events. The meetings also align Commission advisory policy discussions with the LB CAP topics and are strategically scheduled throughout the annual budget development process.

Month	Climate Action Plan Topic	Administrative and Advisory Items
January	Year in Review Commission Retreat	Work Plan Presentation Commission Training
February	Sea Level Rise & Flooding	Work Plan Review Commission Annual Report
April	Earth Month Celebration	
June	Drought	Chair/Vice Chair Elections
August	Extreme Heat, Air Quality	
October	Building & Energy, Waste	Building Electrification
December	Transportation	Vision Zero and Active Transportation