



Sacramento Metro Area Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program Priority Climate Action Plan Roadmap

Funded by Section 60114 of the Inflation Reduction Act, the U.S. EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program funds climate plans that reduce greenhouse gases and associated criteria and toxic air pollution, create green jobs that strengthen the low carbon economy, and provide tangible benefits to communities impacted by environmental injustice. A total of \$250 million for non-competitive planning grants under Phase 1 of the CPRG program is being distributed to metropolitan statistical areas, states, tribes, and local governments, while the second phase of the program is anticipated to award a total of \$4.6 billion for competitive implementation grants.

The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (Sac Metro Air District) is the lead agency in the Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) responsible for submitting Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program deliverables to the U.S. EPA for Phase 1. The Sacramento MSA includes seven counties and the cities within the Sacramento Region – Sacramento, El Dorado, Yolo, Placer, Nevada, Yuba, and Sutter. EPA is providing a planning grant for the Sacramento MSA to develop the three required deliverables for Phase 1 – a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP), and a Status Report. The development of the PCAP, CCAP and Status Report will be in collaboration with community stakeholders and the recently formed steering committee of participating jurisdictions and agencies listed in the table below.

| Sacramento Region CPRG Steering Committee | |
|--|--|
| Lead Agency/Chair – Sac Metro Air District | |
| Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) | Town of Loomis |
| Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) | City of Rocklin |
| Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) | City of Roseville |
| El Dorado Air Quality Management District | Sacramento County |
| City of South Lake Tahoe | City of Citrus Heights |
| Nevada County | City of Elk Grove |
| City of Grass Valley | City of Folsom |
| Town of Truckee | City of Rancho Cordova |
| Placer Air Pollution Control District | City of Sacramento |
| Placer County Transportation Planning Agency | Yolo-Solano County Air Quality Management District |
| Placer County | Yolo County |
| City of Auburn | City of Davis |
| City of Colfax | Sutter County |
| City of Lincoln | |

The PCAP development process is outlined below and includes a greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory for the region, quantified GHG reduction measures, a low income/disadvantaged communities benefits analysis,

a review of authority to implement the GHG reduction measures, and an analysis of other funding opportunities. Stakeholder engagement will be interwoven throughout the PCAP development process.

| Program Element | Timeframe | Activity | Key Milestone |
|--|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Stakeholder Coordination and Engagement | Monthly | Steering Committee meetings | |
| | September - October 2023 | Community engagement with priority communities and stakeholders | Outreach Advisory Committee formed; community engagement strategy developed |
| Contracting | June - August 2023 | Recruitment of community engagement and technical contractors | Contracts in place |
| GHG Inventory and Analysis for Priority Sources | June - September 2023 | Regional GHG inventory developed | Final report with methods, inputs, and results |
| Quantified GHG Reduction Measures | June - December 2023 | Priority GHG reduction measure selection in collaboration with Steering Committee | |
| Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis | September - November 2023 | Health benefit quantification of selected GHG reduction measures | Low income/disadvantaged and other priority communities identified |
| Review of Authority to Implement | October - November 2023 | Identification of steps needed to get authority to implement measures | |
| Funding Opportunity Analysis | October 2023 | Alignment of incentive projects and programs with priority CPRG projects; leverage local funding assessments | |
| Draft PCAP | December 2023 - February 2024 | Draft PCAP with internal, partner and legal review | Release draft PCAP |
| Final PCAP | February 2024 | Final review of PCAP | Release final PCAP |

Next Steps

The finalized PCAP will be shared via the public CPRG website on March 1, 2024, to the entities (cities, towns, counties, and other agencies) throughout the Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area for citation when applying for competitive CPRG implementation funds in Phase 2 of the CPRG program. The development of the CCAP and the Status Report will occur between 2024 and 2027. Phase 1 of the CPRG program will officially close in early 2027 when the Status Report is submitted to EPA. EPA anticipates the release of Phase 2 implementation guidance in September 2023. Additional Priority Climate Action Plan details are described in the text below.

Additional Roadmap Details

Program Element 1.1: GHG Inventory

A technical contractor will determine the proportion of statewide emissions that can reasonably be attributed to the Sacramento MSA by major source category. The contractor will use the statewide emissions inventory, the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) 2022 Scoping Plan for Carbon Neutrality, and readily available data such as population projections, fuel consumption, and CalRecycle waste disposal data to downscale from the state-level. For certain sectors in which downscaling metrics are based on historical data, the contractor will assume that the proportion of statewide emissions from historical data in the MSA will remain constant in the projected year with no adjustment factor to account for MSA-specific growth estimates. For on-road vehicles, data from CARB's latest Emission FACTor (EMFAC) program will be used, and to the extent necessary, will incorporate additional local reductions. Localized data from existing climate action plans, sustainability plans, energy plans, and GHG reduction plans will be incorporated, as necessary. The anticipated completion date for the inventory is September 2023.

Program Element 1.2: GHG Emissions Projections (Not Required for PCAP)

Program Element 1.3: GHG Reduction Targets (Not Required for PCAP)

Program Element 1.4: Quantified GHG Reduction Measures

Quantified GHG reduction measures from the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) Handbook for Analyzing Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions, Assessing Climate Vulnerabilities, and Advancing Health and Equity will be compared to measures included in existing climate action plans from the participating jurisdictions. The steering committee will determine which measures are a priority based on local climate goals, community priorities, and feasibility of implementation. Any unquantified measures will be quantified and added to the CAPCOA Handbook for statewide use. Priority measures will be incorporated in the PCAP.

For each selected measure, the technical contractor will estimate GHG reductions by leveraging the CAPCOA Handbook and applying other, accepted methodologies from the local climate action plans in the MSA. The contractor will develop quantitative calculations for each measure and will estimate incidental reductions of other pollutants including ozone precursors and particulate matter. The contractor will run emission factor models to estimate co-benefit reductions of criteria pollutants related to vehicle miles traveled reductions and replacements of off-road equipment.

The PCAP will be inclusive of measures that can be implemented not only by our collaborating partners, but also other entities in the region who are interested in implementation funding for climate projects. The measures that will be selected by this MSA could include projects such as: carbon free electricity, zero emission vehicle adoption, building electrification, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, hydrogen production and infrastructure, zero emission transit, wildfire reduction and management, organic waste reduction, micro-mobility, expanded or redesigned public transit/routes, urban tree canopy expansion, and workforce development.

Program Element 1.5: Benefits Analysis (Not Required for PCAP)

Program Element 1.10: Stakeholder Engagement Activities

The steering committee, consisting of key contacts from the participating jurisdictions, will help make decisions related to each element of the CPRG program. Program materials such as program guidance, the EPA-reviewed workplan and budget and meeting notes are shared with steering committee members via the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program SharePoint website. Even after the completion of the grant program, steering committee members aim to continue to build capacity for the implementation of climate projects in the Sacramento region in the future.

The steering committee will guide the establishment of an Outreach Advisory Committee and a community outreach strategy to engage community stakeholders in the Sacramento MSA. The PCAP community engagement process will build on previous community outreach that was conducted during the development of various climate action plans in the MSA. Priorities and input from community stakeholders will be incorporated into each CPRG deliverable.

In addition, the steering committee will focus efforts within underserved and underrepresented communities to lead a participatory climate action planning process. The engagement strategy will clearly define which communities are considered lower income and disadvantaged based on pollution exposure and socioeconomic data. Community engagement activities to reach underserved and underrepresented communities will be offered during existing community events such as festivals, meetings, and other social gatherings. CPRG updates and public materials will be shared on the public Sac Metro Air District CPRG website. Community outreach will be an ongoing activity and is not anticipated to be completed until early 2024 for the PCAP.

Program Element 1.6: Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis

EPA recommends using the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) and the EJ Screening and Mapping Tool (EJScreen) to identify low income/disadvantaged communities. To supplement this data, each participating jurisdiction will provide a list of their locally identified disadvantaged communities and their methodologies.

Sac Metro Air District takes measures to protect communities disproportionately impacted by air pollution. CARB has identified 17 communities across California as part of the Community Air Protection Program and the Sacramento MSA includes one of these CARB-identified communities known as South Sacramento-Florin. Further, Sac Metro Air District recognizes nine other locally nominated priority communities in Sacramento County identified based on an evaluation of air pollution sources, air pollution-related health impacts, community feedback, location of sensitive receptors, and socioeconomic factors. The South Sacramento-Florin community residents serve on an Air Quality Steering Committee that provides Sac Metro Air District with ideas on how to improve air quality in the region. Sac Metro Air District will ask for input on GHG reduction measures and benefits from those measures from this committee and members of the nine other locally nominated priority communities during the outreach process. Sac Metro Air District will also ask the steering committee for input and feedback from each of their priority communities.

Program Element 1.7: Review of Authority to Implement

Sac Metro Air District and the steering committee will indicate whether there is existing statutory or regulatory authority to implement each measure and project and will identify the additional steps needed to get authority if it is yet to be obtained. This process includes legal review of the PCAP.

Program Element 1.8: Leverage/and Intersection with Other Funding

Sac Metro Air District manages several funding programs with similar goals to CPRG and will work with project partners and participating jurisdictions to align incentive projects with priority projects from the CPRG process, where applicable. In addition, Sac Metro Air District works with regional partners that manage their own funding programs and will coordinate with them on project delivery.

Program Element 1.9: Workforce Planning Analysis (Not Required for PCAP)