ATTACHMENT

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE

2020 Progress Report

OurCounty

The LA County Chief Sustainability Office (CS0) recognizes and acknowledges the first people of this ancestral and unceded territory. With respect to their elders, past and present, we recognize the Gabrieleño Tongva, Fernandeño Tataviam, Ventureño Chumash, and Gabrieleño Kizh who are still here and are committed to lifting up their stories and culture.

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INTRODUCTION

On August 6, 2019, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted *OurCounty Sustainability Plan (OurCounty)*, the first ever regional sustainability plan for the County of Los Angeles (County) and the most ambitious county sustainability plan in the nation. Grounded in the coequal values of environment, equity, and economy, *OurCounty* puts the focus on people. It envisions streets and parks that are accessible, safe, and welcoming to everyone; air, water, and soil that are clean and healthy; affordable housing that enables all residents to thrive in place; and a just economy that runs on renewable energy instead of fossil fuels.

One year after the plan's adoption, we've taken important steps towards our goals, having prioritized near-term actions and begun implementation. We are doing this work at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has caused an unprecedented global crisis with devastating public health and economic implications. In the face of this crisis, the County is dedicated to strengthening its commitment to sustainability, equity, and resilience. *OurCounty* provides a pathway for investment in a safe, healthy, and inclusive future.

On June 11, 2020, the CSO released the draft of this Annual Progress Report for public review and comment.

While we sought any and all comments on the report, we also asked reviewers to consider the following two questions:

What efforts are being undertaken by other jurisdictions or stakeholders that align with this work and that can support progress toward long-term goals?

Do you have feedback or recommendations that you would like the County to consider for future implementation of specific actions?

We received 11 comment letters on the report by the July 1, 2020 deadline. In these letters we heard clearly that some commenters did not feel that we had provided adequate time to review the report. We acknowledge that more time would have been preferable, and we commit to providing more time to future annual progress reports.

We were pleased that all of the commenters responded to the second question we had asked regarding future implementation of specific actions in the plan. We invited these comments because they are important to informing and shaping future action. We will share these comments with each of the County departments that are designated as leads for each of the actions.

We thank all of you who took time to share your feedback and ideas with us, and we appreciate the public's interest in working with us to create a more just, equitable, and sustainable region, especially during these challenging times. We knew that the window of time available for public comment, which coincided with both the COVID-19 pandemic and a large social movement confronting systemic racism, would likely limit some stakeholders' capacity to provide feedback and input. However, we felt it was important to honor our partners' implementation priorities and the shared vision for sustainability by upholding our commitments to the implementation and reporting process.

Finally, we want to recognize that the same dark forces that enable police brutality are behind the racial inequities that are evident across all aspects of daily life, from housing and education to employment and health. This is why we will continue to center equity in our daily work and why we are committed to seeking out new ways to advance racial justice.

IMPLEMENTATION

OurCounty outlines a bold, inclusive vision for present and future generations of Los Angeles. Over the course of the past year, the CSO and County departments have worked with partners and stakeholders to begin turning our collective vision into a reality. Implementation of *OurCounty* is a long-term commitment, with some of our goals and targets reaching 30 years into the future. To ensure short-term progress and accountability, the Board directed the CSO and County departments to follow a yearly prioritization and reporting schedule, with an Annual Priorities Report to be released each February and an Annual Progress Report to be released each August. Per the Board's direction, we will engage stakeholders in the prioritization process and the reporting process each year.

Annual Near-Term Priorities Report

The first*OurCounty* Priorities Report (Priorities Report), which was submitted to the Board on February 14, 2020, identified the top 21 priority actions for the first year of *OurCounty* implementation. To develop this list of 21 near-term priorities, the CSO first asked County departments to submit their proposed priority actions based on their anticipated needs and capacities. The CSO compiled department recommendations and refined the list using criteria such as cost, availability of resources, and time frame. The resulting list contained 59 potential priority actions, representing all 12 Goals in *OurCounty* and 12 lead County departments. The list of 59 recommended priority actions formed the basis of a public dialogue.

The CSO posted the list online and on social media, distributed it to 3,900 CSO newsletter recipients, hosted an in-person workshop, and participated in a workshop hosted by the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability. The CSO also discussed priorities at a meeting with the five anchor community based organizations (CBOs) - East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice (EYCEJ), Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education (SCOPE), Pacoima Beautiful, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), and Day One - that were instrumental in the creation of *OurCounty*. Through the workshops, convenings, and various presentations, individual participants were able to engage directly in the dialogue of developing the final priorities, and over 30 diverse organizations submitted written comments within the public comment period. By compiling and tabulating stakeholder comments on the proposed 59 priority actions, the CSO identified 21 actions that rose to the top as the public's highest near-term priorities. These 21 actions reflect the public's interest in preparing for the impacts of climate change, tackling the housing crisis, lowering the demand for fossil fuels in buildings, addressing fossil fuel extraction in a way that supports displaced workers, more strategically managing waste, and having the County lead efforts to coordinate funding needs across jurisdictions. While the public provided support primarily at the action level, the CSO also received many stakeholder comments in support of Goal 7 relating to creating a fossil fuel-free Los Angeles County.

Annual Progress Report

County Departments have incorporated implementation plans for near-term priorities into their proposed 2020-2021 budgets. Because the near-term priorities were not identified before the beginning of the current budget cycle, much of the following report is forward-looking. Where actions are still in the very beginning stages of implementation, this report lays out next steps lead Departments will take to carry the actions forward. The final version of the first *OurCounty* Annual Progress Report will be released in August 2020. Future annual reports will summarize additional progress made on prioritized actions.

Engagement with *OurCounty* Actions

Stakeholder engagement is crucial to the Annual Priorities Report and Annual Progress Report, but it is not limited to these two channels. The County is committed to engaging stakeholders in the implementation of each action, as described in the below action summaries. While all of the actions highlighted in this report are considered near-term priorities, each action is at a different stage in its planning and/or implementation process. This report describes completed stakeholder engagement activities, as well as planned stakeholder engagement activities when such plans are already available, for each priority action.

OUR EQUITY FRAMEWORK

OurCounty envisions a future where all residents throughout the region benefit from flourishing, pollution-free natural and built environments, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, income, or other social differences. Los Angeles has a well-documented history of exclusionary zoning, racial covenants, and other unjust policies that burden low-income communities and communities of color with conditions such as polluted stormwater runoff, dirty air, and lack of access to parks and open space. Rectifying these inequities is essential to a sustainable future.

Equity is an end state in which all groups have access to the resources and opportunities necessary to improve the quality of their lives. *OurCounty* uses the following framework.

Procedural Equity: Inclusive, accessible, authentic engagement and representation in processes to develop or implement sustainability programs and policies.

Example: *OurCounty* is actualizing procedural equity through its work with community-based organizations to engage stakeholders in the development and implementation of *OurCounty's* goals, strategies, and actions.

Distributional Equity: Sustainability programs and policies resulting in fair distribution of benefits and burdens across all segments of a community, prioritizing benefits to those communities with highest need.

Example: Departments will advance distributional equity by assessing the distribution of resources and opportunities, and prioritizing investments and services in communities where there is poor access to resources and opportunities.

Structural Equity: Sustainability decision-makers institutionalize accountability; decisions are made with a recognition of the historical, cultural, and institutional dynamics and structures that have routinely benefited privileged groups and resulted in chronic, cumulative disadvantage for subordinated groups.

Example: Structural equity is embedded into *OurCounty* through its commitment to regularly report on implementation efforts and promote transparent, inclusive decision-making.

Transgenerational Equity: Sustainability decisions consider generational impacts and don't result in unfair burdens on future generations.

Example: *OurCounty* actions will provide near- and long-term social, environmental, and economic benefits.

These principles help guide *OurCounty* sustainability efforts toward equitable impacts, but we must also deal with the inequities that already exist. In acknowledgment that structural racism has harmed people of color across all categories of social and physical well-being, *OurCounty* is aimed at achieving an end state in which race can no longer be used to predict life outcomes, such as educational attainment, employment, or health status. Strategies and actions throughout this document have been and continue to be developed with racial equity as a central consideration.

Impacts of the global pandemic

COVID-19 began affecting County operations in March 2020, just weeks after the CSO released its 2020 Annual Near-Term Priorities Report. Nearly all County departments have had to shift attention and resources toward the emergency response to the pandemic. The County's budget uncertainty will impact the ability of departments to deliver on near-term priorities and make year-long plans, though some of the sustainability plan actions are more directly impacted than others. Stakeholder engagement may prove especially challenging; the crisis prevents gathering in person to exchange ideas, and it leaves many stakeholders with reduced capacity to participate deeply in the engagement process. We also understand that implementation plans for specific actions will have to take into account the changed circumstances of our region particularly related to our local businesses and public health. Despite these shortfalls and uncertainties, the County remains committed to prioritizing sustainability and finding efficient, equitable, and innovative ways to carry out engagement and implementation for *OurCounty*.

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Goal 1

Resilient and healthy community environments where residents thrive in place

Action 2

Expand the minimum setback distance for oil and gas operations from sensitive land uses.

Lead Department:
Department of Regional Planning
Horizon: Medium term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Throughout the County, residents who live in close proximity to oil and gas operations bear the brunt of their impacts, including the impacts on health and wellbeing due to factors such as environmental pollution, stress, and noise. These communities, which are disproportionately low-income communities and communities of color, have been forced to reckon with these negative impacts for decades. Expanding the minimum setback distance for oil and gas operations from sensitive land uses, such as homes and schools, will reduce the burden of environmental impacts from oil and gas facilities on these communities and begin to address this long-standing disparity.

What progress has been made?

The Department of Regional Planning (DRP) developed and refined a draft ordinance to place limits on new oil wells and facilities near sensitive uses in residential areas. The draft ordinance was presented to the Regional Planning Commission on April 15, 2020.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Next year, DRP will conduct public outreach around the draft ordinance, which may include outreach using digital platforms due to the need for social distancing. Then, DRP will present the ordinance to the Regional Planning Commission at a public hearing for their review and recommendation. Lastly, DRP will present the ordinance to the Board for a public hearing, review, and adoption.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Coalition for Clean Air

Since 1971, the Coalition for Clean Air (CCA) has worked tirelessly to protect public health, improve air quality, and prevent climate change in Los Angeles County. Each year, CCA is proud to host California Clean Air Day, uniting communities across the state to make a significant impact through fun, positive activities. With around 650,000 participants across California in 2019, and growing, individuals pledge to do at least one thing to clean the air. This action can be as easy as planting something, reducing vehicle emissions, or switching out a filter; anyone can do it. CCA has also worked diligently to establish a network of real-time air quality monitors in California's most disadvantaged communities to provide equal access to real time air quality data for the most vulnerable. By providing residents in those communities with access to real-time information, CCA gives them a powerful way to determine when and where to play, run, walk and bike.

Goal 2

Buildings and infrastructure that support human health and resilience

Actions 28A & 28B

Conduct a countywide climate vulnerability assessment that addresses social vulnerability and use it to guide priorities for investments in public health preparedness, emergency preparedness and response planning, and community resiliency.

Lead Department:
Chief Executive Office
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About these Actions

The social and physical Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) will address both of these actions by examining social and physical vulnerability to anticipated climate changes such as extreme heat, precipitation, fire, sea level rise, vectors, drought, and flooding for the unincorporated areas of LA County. The CVA will identify priorities for investment in physical and social infrastructure and guide the equitable distribution of these investments. These actions contribute to fulfilling the requirements of Senate Bill 379, which requires a climate vulnerability assessment for the unincorporated areas of the County, to serve as the technical foundation for an upcoming update to the Safety Element of the County's General Plan and the County's first-ever Climate Adaptation Plan for the unincorporated areas.

What progress has been made?

In late 2019 and early 2020, the County Sustainability Office developed and released a request for proposals for the CVA, and in April 2020 selected a consultant team led by BuroHappold Engineering to perform the assessments.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The consultant team will perform the CVA over a twelve-month period beginning in the summer of 2020. The assessments will look at primary and secondary impacts on air quality, economy and workforce development, energy, housing, landscapes and ecosystems, public health, transportation, waste and resource management, and water. Across each of these dimensions, the CVA will identify equity implications, including how climate impacts and vulnerabilities are distributed across communities and sub-populations such as low-income families, older adults, and outdoor workers. The County will seek input and insight from city leaders and other stakeholders across the region, to identify vulnerabilities that cross jurisdictional boundary lines and to foster new partnerships. To foster deep and equitable engagement, we will provide stipends to enable community-based organizations to participate in a CVA Steering Committee, alongside other stakeholders.

Action 29

Develop a comprehensive heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan that addresses cool pavements and roofs, pavement reduction, and urban greening.

Lead Department: Department of Public Health
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Climate change threatens public health by causing higher average temperatures and more frequent and severe heat waves. However, risk of heat related illness is not evenly distributed. Parts of the County are much hotter than others due to factors such as topography and the heat island effect, which results when heat-trapping surfaces such as asphalt and concrete raise temperatures in nearby areas. Los Angeles County's low-income communities and communities of color are more likely to live in heat islands. Moreover, people in these communities often lack access to resources, such as air conditioners and cooling centers, that can help them cope with extreme heat. This increased risk of harm is shared by people experiencing homelessness, work in the outdoors, older adults, young children, pregnant women, and people with chronic conditions like diabetes and heart disease. A comprehensive heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan will identify and assess these impacts throughout the County and lay out strategies to address them.

What progress has been made?

In 2018, The Department of Public Health (DPH) led the development of a draft Urban Heat Island Reduction Plan (UHIRP) with the assistance of other County departments, local non-governmental organizations, and the Los Angeles Urban Cooling Collaborative. Twenty-two community-based, academic, government, and private sector stakeholders drafted or provided feedback on sections of the UHIRP. The draft plan features strategies and actions related to cool roofs, cooling pavements, trees, and green spaces. The document will contribute to the final strategy required under this action, which will also include consideration of impacts specific to rural portions of the County. DPH will pursue funding to support this action through the County's annual budgeting process and by seeking external funds.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Due to the impacts of COVID-19 on the County's budget and priorities, the implementation of this action is likely to be delayed. Contingent on receiving funding, DPH will work with consultants to finalize the heat island mitigation strategy and develop an implementation plan with performance metrics. DPH will also continue to engage community and institutional stakeholders around this action.

Action 34

Invest in multi-benefit water management solutions that diversify and increase reliability of the water supply, reduce dependency on imported water, prioritize solutions that mimic natural systems, and maximize benefits to Native and disadvantaged communities.

Lead Department: Public Works
Horizon: Short-to-Long term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

Measure W, also known as the Safe Clean Water Program, was passed by County voters in November 2018 and is expected to generate approximately $285 million annually to fund multi-benefit water management projects across the county. The Safe Clean Water Program has five key elements which will advance this action: collaboration, asset management, education, community engagement, and stewardship of public funds. The program provides funding for operations and maintenance of infrastructure projects, which ensures investments for long-term sustainability and resiliency, and it emphasizes projects that prioritize natural solutions. It further provides dedicated funding for stormwater-related outreach, public education, school education, and workforce training.

The Safe Clean Water Program is designed to allocate funds equitably across the region with special emphasis on disadvantaged communities. Of the funding generated by Measure W, municipalities will directly receive 40% of the funding while 50% of the funding is part of a Regional Program to finance regional, watershed scale projects, and 10% of the funding is returned to the County Flood Control District to implement District projects and programs and administer the Safe Clean Water Program.

As part of the municipal program, County unincorporated areas will receive approximately $11 million every year as local return. The Unincorporated Areas Stormwater Runoff Urban Quality Program, which is also funded through the County's General Fund, will administer the $11 million and will construct projects in unincorporated areas that improve stormwater quality in our region's lakes, rivers, and oceans while providing additional benefits and community enhancements.

What progress has been made?

The implementation ordinance for the Safe Clean Water Program was adopted by the Board in August 2019.

Following this, Public Works released a Call for Project Applications to be funded by the regional funds from the Safe Clean Water Program. They convened the Watershed Area Steering Committees, the Regional Oversight Committee, and the Scoring Committee to review project submittals and selected those that would be funded in the 2020/21 fiscal year. As a result, the first $100M of Regional Program investments are expected to be recommended for Board approval of funding in fall 2020. It's important to note that in June 2020, the Board adopted standard template transfer agreements in order to facilitate transfer of these Regional Program funds as well as another $113M in local return funds to cities so that they may complete local projects.

In 2020, the Unincorporated Areas Stormwater Runoff Urban Quality Program completed construction of five regional projects, with a construction cost close to $50 million, mostly funded through the County's General Fund and various grants, which have a cumulative stormwater management capacity of nearly 50 acre-feet. Progress was made in planning for several projects that will be constructed in the next few years. These projects are models for the future regional projects to be funded through the Safe Clean Water Program.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The Safe Clean Water Program plans to build hundreds of acre-feet of stormwater capture capacity in the next several years. Quantitative metrics related to specific benefits will be developed as projects begin to be implemented. All Safe Clean Water Program-funded projects under the Unincorporated Area Stormwater Runoff Urban Quality Program will incorporate a stakeholder engagement process which will give the public direct input to the design elements of the projects.

Action 35

Develop a local water supply plan.

Lead Department: Public Works
Horizon: Short-to-Medium term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

Nearly 60 percent of the water used in the County is sourced from outside the region. This leaves the supply vulnerable to disruptions due to potential shocks and stressors like earthquakes and droughts. Imported water is also energy intensive, so using it can contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, and it is costly to transport. The Los Angeles County Water Plan (Wate Plan) will articulate a shared vision for enhanced water resources management across the region. The Water Plan will be developed with the goal of establishing long term regional water resilience while providing social, environmental, and economic benefits to present and future generations.

What progress has been made?

In April 2016, the Board directed Public Works to develop the Water Plan. Development began with limited stakeholder engagement with major public agencies. Public Works is currently in the process of hiring a consultant to assist with scoping and developing the plan and intends to conduct more widespread engagement during plan development.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Over the next year Public Works will begin developing regional resilience and sustainability goals to achieve enhanced infrastructure, livable communities, healthy watersheds, and resource optimization. Public Works will collaborate with community-based organizations as it engages the public to develop and implement these goals, strategies, and actions. The plan will focus on strategies that prioritize investments and services to communities with poor existing access to resources and opportunities. Input from community meetings will be used to inform project, program, and ordinance development, with stakeholder engagement beginning in the summer of 2020. A draft Water Plan will be released for public comment before a final Water Plan is submitted for Board approval. Public Works will report on implementation efforts and promote transparent, inclusive decision-making.

Action 43

Create and implement a community-informed Urban Forest Management Plan that incorporates equitable urban forest practices, identifies County funding sources, and prioritizes:

(1) Tree- and park-poor communities;
(2) Climate and watershed appropriate and drought/pest-resistant vegetation;
(3) Appropriate watering, maintenance, and disposal practices;
(4) Shading; and
(5) Biodiversity.

Lead Department: Chief Executive Office
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

A County Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) will establish a path to increasing tree canopy, which will create more resilient and healthy community environments, and thriving ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity. A key goal for the UFMP is addressing existing inequities in the tree canopy; recent tree inventories have shown that low-income communities and communities of color often have less tree canopy than other places in the county. The UFMP will comprehensively document, and provide a strategy for addressing, these inequities.

What progress has been made?

The County Tree Committee, which is comprised of departments that play a role in tree management and policy for the County, has met on a regular basis to develop a shared vision and approach for a County UFMP in preparation for applying for grant funding to support this effort in the fall of 2020.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

If the Chief Executive Office receives the grant funding in late spring 2021, UFMP development will start as early as the summer of 2021 with consultant selection and contracting, and the project will kick-off in early 2022. The UFMP will include numeric targets and metrics to measure progress towards plan goals. The project will include a robust stakeholder engagement process that is modeled after the Parks Needs Assessment and *OurCounty* processes, and will include stipends for stakeholder participation, and partnering with CBOs to lead community engagement.

Goal 3

Equitable and sustainable land use and development without displacement

Action 49

Expand the number and extent of transit-oriented communities while ensuring that vital public amenities, such as parks and active transportation infrastructure, are included.

Lead Department:
Department of Regional Planning
Horizon: Medium term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

Transit oriented communities offer a mix of land uses and building types near high-quality transit with bicycle and pedestrian connections, creating vibrant communities with health benefits including higher rates of walking and biking. This action will be carried out through the implementation of the General Plan Transit Oriented District (TOD) Program, alternatively referred to as "Transit Oriented Communities (TOC)." The most recent initiative to achieve this is Connect Southwest LA: A TOD Specific Plan for West Athens- Westmont ("Specific Plan"), which seeks to provide new opportunities for housing and businesses and improve accessibility with streetscape improvements, high quality bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, wayfinding signage and other enhancements consistent with Metro's First/Last Mile Strategic Plan.

A key component of the Specific Plan is the transformation of the current mobility network to one that places a higher priority on the principles of complete streets and multi-modal design to encourage active transportation and transit use. It aims to design streets that facilitate safe, accessible connections between major destinations for multiple modes of transportation. Additionally, it developed parking management strategies to more efficiently use parking resources and supports programs that reduce parking demand.

What progress has been made?

The Specific Plan was developed through a robust outreach program that included a range of local voices and perspectives. Engaging under-represented populations (such as older adults, families, single mothers, people of color, and children and youth) was important in ensuring that its goals, policies and programs were reflective of the community while advancing *OurCounty* Goals.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Additional TOC Specific Plans will be prioritized according to the General Plan TOD Policy Map. The next TOC Plan is proposed in unincorporated Florence-Firestone and will include the Florence, Firestone, and Slauson stations. This plan will reprogram industrial uses near residences and schools to higher density residential to provide new housing that is affordable to all income levels. It will also incorporate targeted improvements to the public right of way to make it easier for local residences to access a new transfer station.

Action 52

Promote walkability through various tools, including zoning that enables a mix of uses, and pedestrian enhancements.

Lead Department:
Department of Regional Planning
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Improving walkability, ensuring residents can undertake a wide variety of daily errands and activities within walking distance of their homes, is one important way to make neighborhoods more livable and more sustainable. This action will be carried out collectively through programs and place-based policies the County implements that are appropriate for promoting walkability. Two examples from this year, the East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan and the TOD Toolkit, will help guide transportation and mobility growth to support greater connectivity between transit infrastructure and commuter destinations.

East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan

The East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan (Plan) is a long-range policy document intended to guide the growth and development of the East San Gabriel Valley over time. The Plan will promote walkability through potential goals, policies, and implementation actions that are responsive to existing conditions in the eastern San Gabriel Valley. Land use actions, including updates to zoning, that support walkability may be included where feasible.

TOD Toolkit

Transit oriented designs apply to mixed-use communities within walking distance of a transit stop. The design, configuration and mix of public infrastructure and transportation-related improvements help promote a pedestrian-friendly environment. The TOD Toolkit, and its related First/Last Mile (FLM) Studies, which are being led by Public Works, will provide a framework for analyzing and recommending transportation-related improvements that support land use designations in areas located within a half-mile radius of stations. The toolkit will incorporate stakeholder input on priorities for future TOD infrastructure improvements that will lead to improved public health and safety outcomes and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. FLM studies will provide recommendations to improve pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure that will lead to improved access and support greater mobility options for all. The TOD Toolkit and FLM Studies are being carried out by a consultant hired by Public Works with an anticipated completion date of end of 2020. The Norwalk and Lambert stations were selected for the FLM studies because they include a half mile radius with a higher number of parcels in unincorporated communities than other proposed Metro stations.

What progress has been made?

East San Gabriel Valley Action Plan

Plan development has included a review of existing conditions, including pedestrian infrastructure and other elements that contribute to increased walkability. DRP held several visioning workshops in the project area to receive feedback on community needs and priorities. This engagement included arts and culture-based approaches which were planned and facilitated in partnership with the Department of Arts and Culture (see Partner Spotlight below).

TOD Toolkit

DRP has provided comments and community engagement coordination in support of the TOD Toolkit and the Norwalk FLM Plan. An existing conditions report and first draft of the Toolkit have been completed and is presently in revision. An existing conditions report has been completed for the Norwalk FLM Study.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

East San Gabriel Valley Action Plan

DRP anticipates to have draft policies and goals for the Plan by the end of 2020. Public engagement will continue through Plan adoption, which is expected in 2022; methods will target people who are often not present or heard in Planning processes.

TOD Toolkit

Community engagement for both the Norwalk and Lambert Station FLM are ongoing and will subsequently lead to the development of draft documents. The project timeline anticipates completion by the end of 2020.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Arts and Cultural Engagement for East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan

Arts and culture-based community engagement is a critical part of the Plan which is a regional, long-range planning document for unincorporated communities in East San Gabriel Valley. Fonografia Collective, a documentary storytelling collective focused on how social, cultural, and environmental issues impact everyday people, created "People's Map: Stories from the East San Gabriel Valley," a multilingual, arts-based community engagement project celebrating the people and places of Los Angeles' East San Gabriel Valley. Fonografia

immersed themselves in the communities of the East San Gabriel Valley using documentary storytelling to craft and convey intimate portraits of local residents, business owners, students, and community activists. Y-PLAN (Youth – Plan, Learn, Act, Now), a research initiative within the Center for Cities + Schools at University of California in Berkley, set up a youth planning and civic engagement pilot program with several school teachers at Rowland High School and over 120 students to integrate planning and civic education into their curriculum and coursework. The students worked in teams to develop planning projects focused on housing, resilient communities, mobility, health, active living, and other civic issues which impact quality of life in East San Gabriel Valley.

Action 59

Collaborate with the City of Los Angeles and others to develop a "Just Transition" Plan and task force that examines the impact of the transition to a cleaner economy on disadvantaged workers, identifies strategies for supporting displaced workers, and develops recommendations for ensuring inclusive employment practices within growth sectors of the economy.

Lead Department:
Chief Executive Office
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

A Just Transition Plan is critical to achieving equity Goals in *OurCounty*. It will address existing economic inequities by targeting disadvantaged workers for new opportunities in a cleaner economy. It will also ensure that other *OurCounty* Goals, for instance around transitioning to a zero-emission energy system, do not exacerbate or create new economic hardship.

What progress has been made?

Because of the complexity of this action, and in order to support development of a comprehensive Plan, the CSO has been working to establish a clear landscape of ongoing work on this issue being conducted by external partners, including local government partners, community-based organizations, and academia. This landscape analysis work is likely to continue next year. The Department of Workforce Development, Aging, and Community Services, and other County departments have done extensive work to support development of a clean economy workforce through specialized training programs and apprenticeship work, including partnership with the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator. The CSO currently leads the establishment of the Measures W, H, A, M Task Force, which will determine how best to leverage resources from Measures W, H, A, and M to support equitable training and upskilling of workers to implement and maintain climate resilient, green infrastructure.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The CSO will continue working to understand existing work done by external partners. Stakeholder outreach has not yet begun, and community engagement will be a major component given the great interest and numerous stakeholders involved.

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Goal 4

A prosperous Los Angeles County that provides opportunities for all residents and businesses and supports the transition to a green economy

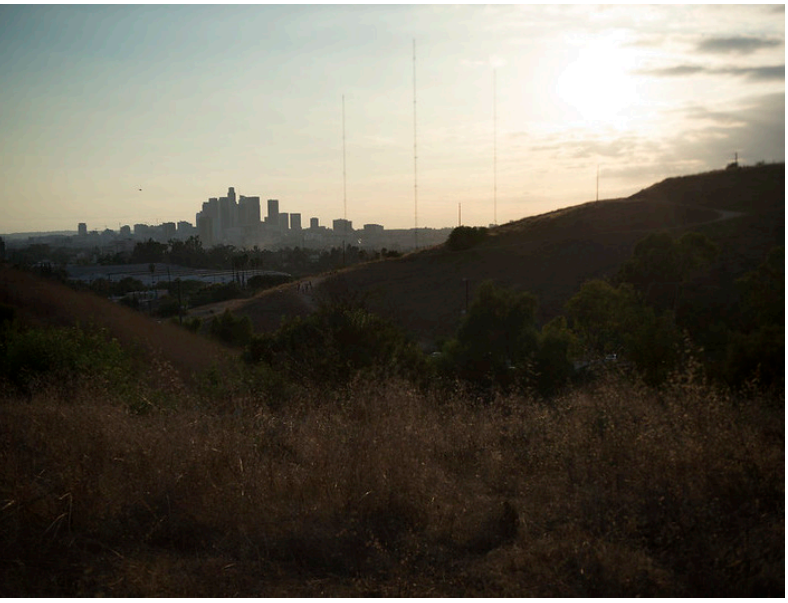
Action 65

Promote the development and growth of community land trusts, housing cooperatives, and other models for the provision of permanently affordable rental and ownership housing, including by identifying appropriate public land.

Lead Department:
Department of Regional Planning
Horizon: Medium term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

All models of permanently affordable ownership housing provide homeownership opportunities to low-income households, who typically have limited homeownership opportunities. Both rental and ownership housing that is permanently affordable remove units and property from speculative housing markets to secure access to housing for multiple generations. One such affordable ownership model is a community land trust, which purchases ownership of the land beneath homes and multi-family buildings and retains ownership even after these buildings are sold to income-qualifying households or other nonprofits. Under the community land trust model, decisions that impact the households that live in a community are made by those households, prioritizing residents' knowledge about and vision for their community.



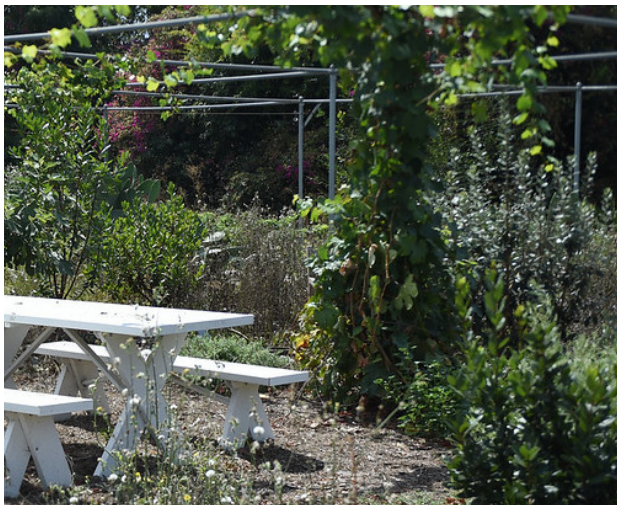
What progress has been made?

DRP drafted an Inclusionary Housing Ordinance allowing developers to create any required affordable housing units off-site from the development project itself if the affordable project is a community land trust. The Inclusionary Housing Ordinance is expected to go to the Board before the end of the year. Additionally, under the Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grant, DRP partnered with community-based organizations on Nuestra Tierra, Nuestro Futuro: A Sustainable Community Ownership and Land Stewardship Pilot in Unincorporated East Los Angeles. This project is intended to develop the framework for a community land trust in East Los Angeles. The community-based organization partners used innovative engagement methods, including storytelling and songwriting workshops, ground truthing, and site visits. Final materials and deliverables were submitted to the California Department of Conservation in 2020.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The Inclusionary Housing Ordinance was scheduled for the Regional Planning Commission on April 29, 2020, and is expected to go to the Board before the end of the year. DRP will monitor the outcomes of the community land trust off-site option in the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance by tracking how many community land trust units it creates. However, if the County does not move forward with strategies for supporting community land trusts generally, this option may not be exercised by developers very often. For the Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grant,

while the work on the grant itself is complete, DRP will continue to support the lead community organization developing community land trust units in East Los Angeles by collaborating on their housing permit application once a site is secured, and supporting an application for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities grant through participation in a multi-department committee. Future progress on the project will be measured by the success of the lead community-based organization in developing community land trust units in East Los Angeles. The County will achieve maximum success if it uses the Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grant as a guide to support development of community land trusts in other neighborhoods, or a Countywide Community Land trust.



PARNER SPOTLIGHT

Circuit

Circuit provides zero emission FLM transportation for residents, employees, and visitors of Santa Monica, Venice, and Marina del Rey in partnership with Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, Marina del Rey Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the County Department of Beaches and Harbors. Circuit offers free, fun, convenient, and safe on-demand rides to get people out of their cars for short trips, reduce congestion, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote local economic development. Because using Circuit does not require providing a credit card or a driver's license, it is an accessible and inclusive form of last-mile transportation. In addition to local tourist attractions, common destinations for Circuit rides include grocery stores and healthcare locations. In 2019, Circuit saved over 56,400 vehicle miles travelled by giving over 22,000 rides last year without burning an ounce of gas, helping its local partners reduce their carbon footprint by approximately 25.97 metric tons of CO2.

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Goal 5

Thriving ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity

Action 70

Increase coordination among, and expand training of, County and affiliated personnel with regard to promoting native and climate-resilient species selection, biodiversity, habitat quality, and connectivity.

Lead Departments:
Chief Executive Office and Department of Parks and Recreation
Horizon: Medium term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

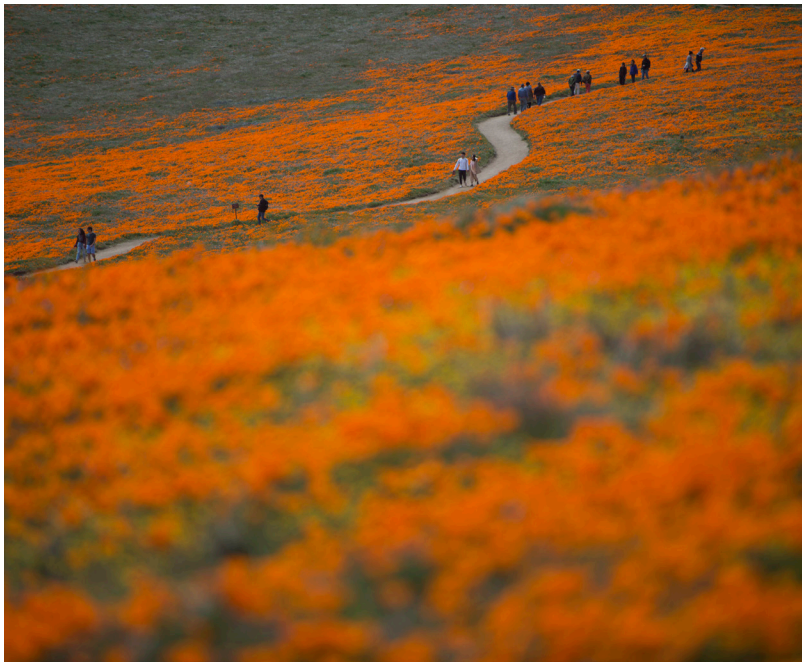
This action is essential for protecting and enhancing the biodiversity of our urban ecosystems in the face of a changing climate. By implementing it, DPR leads or supports efforts to preserve and conserve the region's natural resources and habitat. An education and training curriculum will be created for internal and external County stakeholders and will promote sustainability for open spaces, natural areas, and significant ecological areas throughout the county.

What progress has been made?

DPR has been adapting a 1994 training manual to include material that trains grounds maintenance staff in stewardship activities to support climate resilient species and biodiversity. In November 2019, DPR and the CSO met with stakeholders to brainstorm and share best practices on climate resilient species and biodiversity. The CSO also reached out to other key departments to compile current training programs, materials and guidelines.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

DPR will convene an internal committee to further update the existing training manual, to build on key curriculum and to develop biodiversity goals and strategies, using data from the Park Needs Assessment, the draft Departmental Sustainability Plan, and *OurCounty*. DPR will ensure that the curriculum development is culturally appropriate and linguistically accessible. The completed manual will be distributed to internal DPR agencies and to external stakeholders. Outreach will target places in the county with highest need, using the Park Needs Assessment metrics. DPR will seek funding through the County's annual budgeting process and from external sources. If funding is secured, progress can be tracked and measured by reporting annually which stakeholders, volunteers, and communities are reached during different events.



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Sustainable LA Grand Challenge

The UCLA Sustainable LA Grand Challenge (SLAGC) is a university-wide initiative launched in 2013 aimed at applying UCLA's research, expertise and education to help transform LA into the most sustainable megacity by 2050. Its strategy for achieving this vision includes catalyzing interdisciplinary research and funding for research that advances LA's sustainability goals; both connecting UCLA's faculty, students, and research internally as well as connecting them externally to government, non-profit, and business partners that want our help to make it happen; and creating the next generation of sustainability leaders and problem solvers. SLAGC has funded 49 research projects aimed at charting a pathway for LA County to achieve renewable energy, a more resilient water source, and enhanced ecosystem health by 2050. To track and drive sustainability progress in LA, SLACG develops and issues County sustainability report cards, which measure progress on several sustainability indicators in the region. Most recently, SLAGC released the Water report card in 2019, and the Ecosystem Health report card is expected to be released before the end of 2020.

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Goal 6

Accessible parks, beaches, recreational waters, public lands, and public spaces that create opportunities for respite, recreation, ecological discovery, and cultural activities

Action 78

Collaborate with local tribes to identify and address barriers to observance of traditional practices such as harvesting and gathering, particularly on County-owned land.

Lead Department:
Chief Executive Office
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

People from tribal communities face many of the same, and often more severe, disparities in socioeconomic and health outcomes as do many low-income people and people of color. However, the heterogeneity of these communities in terms of culture, history, and their relationship to the County as sovereign nations, necessitates diverse solutions. This action ensures that the County addresses inequities unique to tribal communities, specifically where inequities create barriers to observation of tribal cultural practices.

What progress has been made?

During development of *OurCounty*, the CSO held a listening session for tribal stakeholders in partnership with the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC). The CSO plans to continue working with LANAIC to design an engagement process to work with these stakeholders over the next year.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The CSO will conduct community engagement activities in the coming year in partnership with LANAIC in order to develop recommendations for the County to address current barriers.

Goal 7

A fossil-fuel free Los Angeles County

Action 85

Collaborate with the City of Los Angeles, Santa Monica, and other members of the Building Decarbonization Coalition to develop building energy and emissions performance standards that put the County on a path toward building decarbonization.

Lead Department: Public Works
Horizon: Medium term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Building decarbonization requires the elimination of fossil fuels in building systems and appliances. Decarbonizing the county's building stock is a critical step in reducing emissions that contribute to climate change. Public Works plans to require decarbonization for new single family and low-rise residential buildings. All new single family and low-rise residential buildings will be required to use electric heat pumps for their space heating and water heating. This requirement will be extended to all new buildings in other occupancy categories in the future, and the County will explore options for addressing fossil fuel use in existing buildings.

This will include engaging utilities and local jurisdictions to create unified requirements across neighboring cities and the county, as well as engaging unions, home builders, designers, and environmental justice advocacy organizations to understand the Action's effect and receive input on implementation strategies. The County will also work with the Clean Power Alliance to provide resources to cities interested in developing and implementing their own building decarbonization codes and strategies. In the future, the State may require Public Works to present to the Energy Commission to show that the ordinance is in compliance.

What progress has been made?

In the last year, staff from Public Works and other County departments met with agencies, utilities, environmental advocates, labor, and other stakeholders to collaborate on strategies for building decarbonization, including close collaboration with the cities of Los Angeles and Santa Monica on potential joint strategies. The County also joined the Building Decarbonization Coalition, an organization that unites building industry stakeholders with energy providers, environmental organizations, and local governments to accelerate decarbonization in California.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

It is anticipated that Public Works will draft, seek public review and comment, and schedule adoption of an ordinance to modify the County's building codes to reduce fossil fuel use starting later in 2020 and continuing into 2021. During this process, the department will also continue discussions with stakeholder groups.

Action 88

Maximize the installation of solar and energy storage systems on County property whenever cost-effective.

Lead Department: Internal Services Department
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

The environmental benefits of emissions free electricity, solar energy and energy storage on County facilities include helping reduce the County's utility expenses and insulate the County from future inflation in the retail cost of electricity. The cost of energy storage has dropped over the last few years such that it can now be economically viable to add energy storage to manage a site's peak demand charges, which can be nearly half of the cost of electricity on many sites.

What progress has been made?

In 2020, the Internal Services Department (ISD) completed the installation of 4 solar systems totaling 4.5 MW of solar energy, nearly tripling the amount of solar energy capacity previously on County facilities. These latest systems were financed through Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), required no upfront County costs, and is expected to save the County over $12.5M in utility expenses over the lifetime of the systems. ISD, in partnership with the Sherriff's Department, is planning on releasing a solicitation in 2020 for solar and energy storage on a major County campus to reduce its energy footprint and utility expenses and increase resiliency that could further triple again the solar capacity on County facilities. ISD is also planning to release a new solar and energy storage solicitation on a distributed group of 25 medium sized County buildings that could add an additional 3 MW in aggregate. Finally, ISD is evaluating the opportunity to expand existing solar sites on County facilities with energy storage or additional solar.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

City of Culver City

The City of Culver City is leading the way with an inclusive, transparent process for phasing out oil drilling. In 2018, with overwhelming community support, the City Council changed course from drafting regulations for the continuation of oil drilling in the Culver City portion of the Inglewood Oil Field, to phasing out oil drilling through an amortization study and comprehensive update to its General Plan. In 2019, the City worked to vet and retain a firm to perform the amortization study, which was released to the public on May 29, 2020. Culver City is also actively involved in California Air Resources Board study of Neighborhood Air Near Petroleum Sources program, and it is providing ongoing oversight for the field through the Community Advisory Panel (through DRP). The City is also helping to craft a health study for the 5-Year Periodic Review of the Inglewood Oil Field.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The current planned solicitations will not be awarded until FY2020-2021, and the construction period for the largest projects could go into FY2021-2022. ISD will continue to explore opportunities to add solar and energy storage, but will also focus on adding resiliency to minimize the impact of power outages such as those caused by Public Safety Power Shutoff events.

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Goal 8

A convenient, safe, clean, and affordable transportation system that enhances mobility and quality of life while reducing car dependency

Action 100

Offer free transit passes for students, youth, seniors, disabled, and low-income populations.

Lead Department: Public Works
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

Availability and access to public transit can create more sustainable and vibrant communities by providing ways for more people to travel sustainably and reducing reliance on forms of transportation, like automobiles, that contribute to climate change. Increased access is especially important to low-income people, those who have limited or no access to private vehicles, and others who choose to travel sustainably. A Free Transit Passes program will increase access for those who qualify to a convenient, safe, clean, and affordable transportation system that enhances mobility, opportunity, and quality of life and reduces car dependency.

What progress has been made?

In the last year, Public Works identified Proposition A Local Return Funds that can be used to implement free transit passes for County services; they selected transit services including East Los Angeles El Sol, Florence-Firestone Link, and South Whittier Sunshine Shuttle, on which the passes would be eligible for use. Public Works has been engaging county residents and transit riders on LAGoBus.com. Public Works will market and publicize the free transit service program by posting public service announcements at bus stops and placing pamphlets and brochures at public spaces.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Public Works will conduct a cost evaluation and present a project budget for each Supervisorial District to review, including recommending the use of Proposition A Local Return Funds for this purpose. If the proposed budget allocation is made, Public Works will take the next steps towards implementation including conducting public outreach.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

ActiveSGV

In response to decades of auto-centric transportation planning and development that contribute to the region's worst-in-nation air quality, sedentary lifestyles, unsafe streets, and poor health outcomes, Active San Gabriel Valley (ActiveSGV) was formed in 2010 by a group of San Gabriel Valley residents, public health activists and community leaders to address an unmet and critical public health need in east Los Angeles County: community-driven efforts to create a more multi-modal, sustainable San Gabriel Valley. Over the past 10 years, ActiveSGV's team of staff organizers, board members, volunteers, and supporters have dedicated thousands of hours to fostering civic engagement in communities across the San Gabriel Valley to effect policy, program, and environmental change. One example is 626 Golden Streets, which temporarily opens stretches of roadway for people to walk, jog, skate, bike and more. The most recent 626 Golden Streets event, "SGV Streets-and-Treats," took place in October 2019 in the Cities of El Monte and South El Monte. While the April 2020 626 Golden Streets event was put on hold due to COVID-19, the next event, "Arroyo Fest," is scheduled to take place on November 15, 2020.

Action 104

Pilot an alternative work site program for County employees.

Lead Departments:
Department of Human Resources and Internal Services Department
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

The expansion of alternative worksite options for County employees (whether through increased telework opportunities or access to alternate work facilities closer to home) will reduce the County workforce's carbon footprint and the overall commute time of individual employees. A pilot program was intended to determine the benefit of allowing employees to work from a selection of alternate locations throughout the county on an as-needed basis with facilities located in multiple cities across the county, helping to reduce the commute times of employees who travel the furthest to their places of work each day. However, with the need for social distancing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all County employees who are able to telework have been working from home since mid- March 2020 and will continue to do so for an indeterminate amount of time. For now, the much broader emergency teleworking has superseded the original pilot program.

What progress has been made?

The pilot was established and launched in the past reporting year. The CSO developed a baseline survey, progress report, and work group to monitor results and share feedback on progress. A recent interim report showed significant reductions in commute distance and carbon dioxide emissions by pilot participants. However, this program is currently suspended due to the social distancing requirements established in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

What progress is planned for next year and beyond?

When the pilot program is able to resume, it will need to be redesigned to take into account the outcomes, findings, and lessons learned from County staff who teleworked during the COVID-19 emergency, including those who may continue to use alternative work site arrangements after the emergent need for social distancing abates. County staff will develop metrics to evaluate the environmental, operational, personnel, and fiscal impacts of the alternative worksite arrangements. A report on the pilot program will be provided to the Board once the program is able to be restarted and information collected on outcomes.

Action 105

Implement the County's Vision Zero Action Plan within unincorporated communities and work with local jurisdictions to implement transportation safety enhancements that reduce traffic injuries and deaths.

Lead Departments: Public Works and Public Health **Horizon:** Short-to-Medium term **Sphere of influence:** Direct, Indirect

About this Action

Between 2013 and 2017, traffic deaths on unincorporated county roadways increased by 28 percent, with someone losing their life every five days on average in a traffic collision. For this reason, people may not feel comfortable when using various modes of active transportation. Recent Vision Zero program survey results showed that many residents choose not to walk because their neighborhood lacks sidewalks or has too much traffic. Through the implementation of the County's Vision Zero Action Plan (Action Plan), which contains strategies to eliminate traffic related fatalities and severe injuries, the County can enhance the safety of unincorporated county roadways, thereby creating more sustainable and vibrant communities. The Vision Zero initiative will focus efforts in communities that are some of the most burdened by traffic deaths and severe injuries, with added attention to disadvantaged communities.

What progress has been made?

Stakeholders throughout the county were engaged in-person at community events and festivals during the development of the Action Plan. A draft Action Plan was made available for review online and distributed at County libraries. The public was provided the opportunity to give feedback on the Action Plan through phone, email, or an online form. In December 2019, DPH and Public Works finalized the Action Plan, strengthening the County's commitment to traffic safety. The Action Plan identified multidisciplinary actions aimed at increasing traffic safety, including engineering enhancements, policy changes, education opportunities, and focused enforcement of unsafe driving behaviors, such as speeding and impaired driving. Outreach to residents, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders will continue during the planning and implementation of the upcoming Vision Zero projects.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Next year, it is anticipated that the County will implement pilot projects and continue work on funded actions from the Action Plan. Stakeholders will be able to track progress on the Vision Zero website. Progress on all Vision Zero activities will be annually reported and made publicly available.

Goal 9

Sustainable production and consumption of resources

Action 107

In collaboration with the City of Los Angeles, develop and implement an equitable strategy to phase out single-use plastics, including in County contracts and facilities.

Lead Departments: Public Works and Internal Services Department
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

Single-use plastics are convenience products created using fossil fuels, and reliance on them has created an abundance of waste that pollutes the air, our public spaces, inland water supply, and the ocean. The presence of single-use plastics is detrimental to human, animal, and Plant ecosystem health. The County has long advocated for strategies that reduce or eliminate single-use plastics, including prohibitions on single-use bags and straws. This action continues that work by requiring County departments to engage stakeholders in the drafting of an ordinance that would further reduce single-use plastic food service ware use and increase use of recyclable or compostable alternatives.

What progress has been made?

In October 2019, the Board adopted a motion directing the CSO in partnership with Public Works, DPH, the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, and County Counsel to contract with the UCLA to develop a report on plastic waste in the county, and to develop an ordinance to address the usage of single use plastic food service materials. In November of 2019, the County held a workshop for stakeholders from community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, local government, waste industry representatives, plastics industry members, and restaurants to inform development of the ordinance. The CSO then convened an internal working group of departments to draft an ordinance.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

This action is currently on hold due to the potential impacts to restaurants and small businesses that are currently experiencing a reduced capacity to adjust to new requirements due to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency. When it is appropriate to begin moving forward with the implementation of this action, the County will conduct another round of stakeholder engagement activities around the draft single use plastics ordinance prior to bringing the ordinance to the Board for approval. If the ordinance is adopted, Public Works will conduct stakeholder outreach and education around ordinance compliance and work in coordination with DPH to implement and enforce the ordinance.

Action 108

Adopt and advocate for producer and manufacturer responsibility requirements.

Lead Departments: Chief Executive Office and Public Works
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct, Indirect

About this Action

Approximately 75 percent of our county's waste stream comes from manufactured products – from common household items such as magazines, prepared food, or toys to household hazardous waste products like electronics, fluorescent lights, batteries, paint, and pesticides. Hard-to-manage waste products such as paint, mattresses, and batteries are often illegally dumped in low-income communities and communities of color because they are difficult and expensive to properly manage. Extended producer responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach in which manufacturers assume a shared responsibility for the impacts and management costs of their products. Requiring producers to provide take back programs for recycling their products after their useful life can reduce cases of illegal dumping in these communities. Boosting the percentage of packaging that is efficient, reusable, and/or recyclable not only reduces waste but could also reduce costs for manufacturers. Because local government implementation of local product or disposal bans alone cannot effectively address problematic materials, EPR policies and programs are most effective when implemented statewide.

What progress has been made?

Consistent with the County's legislative policy, Public Works, in concert with the Chief Executive Office and the County's legislative advocates in Sacramento have been strong supporters of statewide EPR programs and policies. Public Works is also a member of the Board of the California Product Stewardship Council, which sponsors, tracks, and advocates for statewide ERP legislation. Public Works worked with CalRecycle to provide input and information for the development of Senate Bill 212 draft regulations in 2018. Senate Bill 212 established a statewide EPR program for pharmaceutical and sharps waste. The CalRecycle regulations are expected to require manufacturers or distributors of covered drugs and sharps to implement a stewardship program with the minimum requirements established in the bill. Public Works currently manages the countywide Household Hazardous Waste Management Program and supports local implementation of statewide extended producer responsibility programs for paint, mattresses, and carpet.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Public Works will continue to support statewide EPR legislation and policy for solid waste management in general, and specifically for single-use packaging, single-use products, tobacco products, solar panels, and batteries. Additionally, they will work on creating improvements to existing ERP legislation and regulations regarding pharmaceuticals, mattresses, and carpeting.

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Goal 10

A sustainable and just food system that enhances access to affordable, local, and healthy food

Action 132

Implement Good Food Purchasing Policy and/or other model policies that promote local, fair, and sustainable production of agricultural products and seafood, prioritizing vendors with certifications for sustainable agricultural practices related to water, public health, energy use, pesticides, and workers' rights.

Lead Department: Department of Public Works and Department of Parks and Recreation
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

The Good Food Purchasing Program transforms the way public institutions purchase food by creating a transparent and equitable food system built on five core values: local economies, health, valued workforce, animal welfare, and environmental sustainability. A Good Food Purchasing Policy would build on existing County healthy food procurement practices that are already in place, creating additional opportunity to reimagine a healthier and more sustainable food procurement system.

What progress has been made?

The DPH completed and evaluated the pilot program and submitted a report to the Board in December 2019. There was significant stakeholder engagement to implement the pilot including collaboration between the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Center for Good Food Purchasing, the Los Angeles Food Policy Council, and the Board.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Due to the impacts of COVID-19 on the County's budget and priorities, the adoption of the Good Food Purchasing Policy and the implementation of this action are likely to be delayed. If the Board adopts the policy, then DPH can continue to coordinate with stakeholders on the development and implementation of the policy. Implementation would be targeted with departments that serve vulnerable populations, such as the Summer Food Service Program and Senior Meals. Until the policy is adopted by the Board, funding will not be available for implementation.

Goal 12

A commitment to realize *OurCounty* sustainability Goals through creative, equitable, and coordinated funding and partnerships

Action 150

Coordinate multi-jurisdictional efforts to seek local, state, federal, and philanthropic funding to support *OurCounty* initiatives, and provide technical assistance for smaller jurisdictions and tribal governments.

Lead Department: Chief Executive Office
Horizon: Short term
Sphere of influence: Indirect

About this Action

This action seeks to identify creative funding solutions and partnerships that support implementation of *OurCounty* sustainability Goals and Actions. As the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to impact cities, non-profits, and the region, working together to secure limited resources that meet *OurCounty* Goals has become more urgent. Based on the experience from previous economic recessions, it is likely that cities that serve low-income communities and communities of color will be hardest hit and face the strongest need for assistance in pursuing funding. Yet, these same cities are most likely to have the least capacity.

What progress has been made?

In the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the CSO worked with multiple partners to create an initial assessment of external funding opportunities for *OurCounty* implementation, participated in the County's overall grant process, and focused on cross-departmental collaboration. Since adoption of *OurCounty*, the CSO has led the County's participation in the Southern California Resilience Initiative to bring in-kind resources to climate resilience-related aspects of the Sustainability Plan. The CSO's participation in the Healthy Design Work Group Grants Committee has also resulted in the pursuit of funding across jurisdictional boundaries by jointly pursuing a state grant for an Urban Forest Management Plan with the City of Los Angeles.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The CSO has long-term plans to provide technical assistance to cities, especially those serving low-income communities and communities of color. Progress will be tracked by observing the number of collaborations and funding in dollars that was collaboratively pursued.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

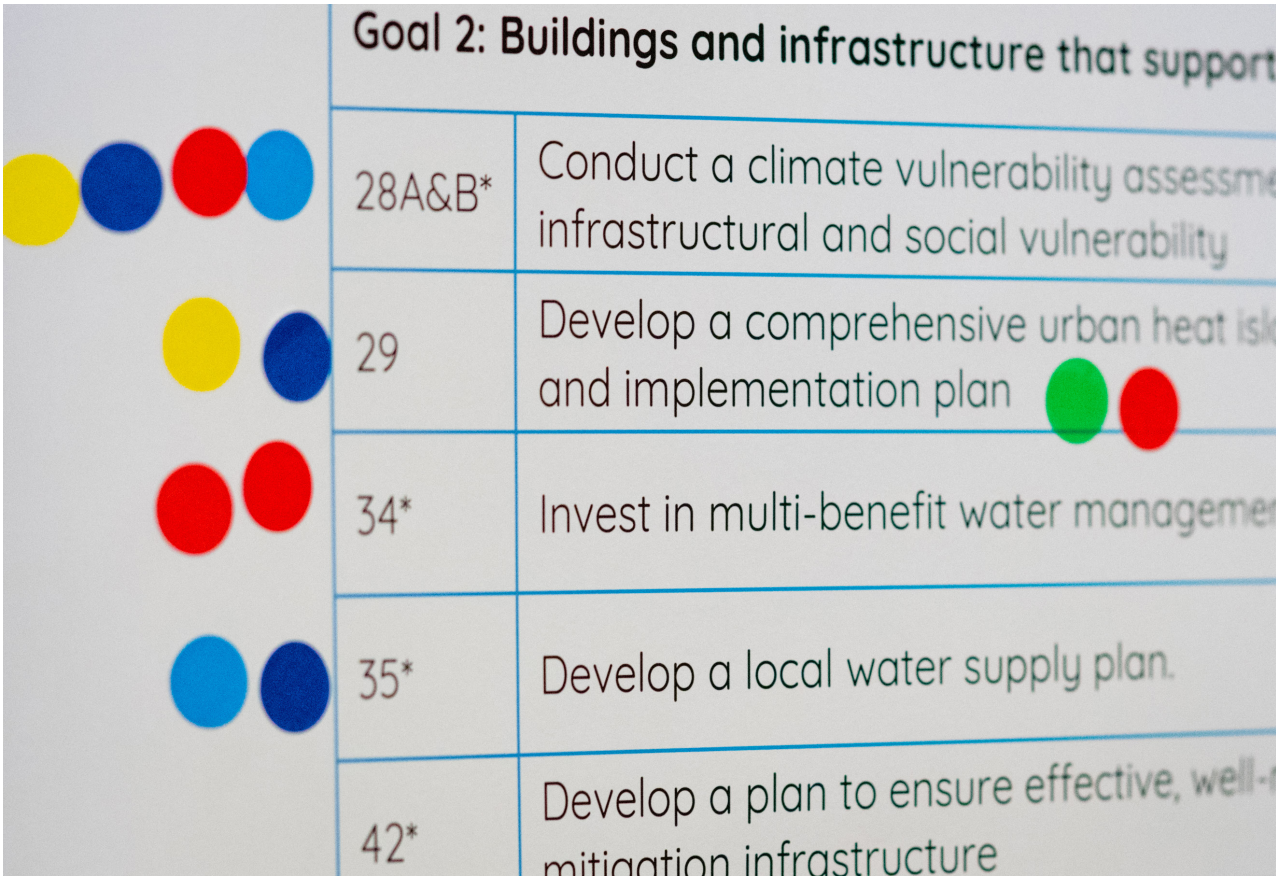
One Up Action

One Up Action (OUA) is a youth-led nonprofit supporting marginalized youth combating the climate crisis by providing them the resources to make their scientific climate solutions a reality and take direct action in their communities. OUA achieves its goals through a two-pronged approach: (1) mobilize youth in hyper-local climate actions, and (2) distribute microgrants to young people of color working on science and/or technological solutions. In 2019, OUA leadership spearheaded an effort to create a Youth Climate Commission for LA County, which was adopted by the Board in October 2019. The Youth Climate Commission is on hold due to the COVID-19 crisis but will move forward as soon as feasible. Additional OUA achievements from this year included planting over 300 trees in LA County and launching an Earth Month campaign with 50 climate actions to do at home to mark the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.

CLOSING

This year's *OurCounty* Progress Report reflects important successes, innovative collaborations, and unexpected challenges. We've taken significant strides towards implementing *OurCounty*, and we still have a long way to go to achieve our vision for Los Angeles. Today, many of the 159 Actions in the plan are not yet started. In this first year of implementation, some priority actions included in this report are still in their early developmental phases. Additionally, actions at every stage of implementation are being disrupted by the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, which will refocus the priorities and capacities of County staff for several months and deeply affect the County's budget for even longer. Despite these challenges, each year the County will gain momentum on the priority Actions identified in this report, completing early priorities and adding new priority actions to the agenda. As the implementation process unfolds, we will have more to share – more accomplishments to enjoy, more partnerships to celebrate, and more lessons learned. This year, we're one step closer to achieving the vision of *OurCounty* for current and future generations of Los Angeles.

Stakeholder engagement acvtivities at *OurCounty* Priorities workhop.



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Appendix

ACTION STATUS TABLE

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Secure Funding	Complete Board Processes	Engage stakeholders	Plan, design, and/or develop program	Implementation	Evaluation
2: Led by Department of Regional Planning Expand the minimum setback distance for oil and gas operations from sensitive land uses	Not Applicable	Not Started	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	Not Started
28 A and B: Led by Chief Executive Office Conduct a countywide climate vulnerability assessment that addresses social vulnerability and use it to guide priorities for investments in public health preparedness, emergency preparedness and response planning, and community resiliency. Conduct a countywide climate vulnerability assessment that addresses physical infrastructure vulnerability and use it to guide priorities for investments in building upgrades, infrastructure improvements, and zoning and code changes	Complete	Not Applicable	Not Started	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started
29: Led by Department of Public Health Develop a comprehensive heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan that addresses cool pavements and roofs, pavement reduction, and urban greening	In progress	Not Applicable	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	Not Started
34: Led by Public Works Invest in multi-benefit water management solutions that diversify and increase reliability of the water supply, reduce dependency on imported water, prioritize solutions that mimic natural systems, and maximize benefits to Native and disadvantaged communities	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	In progress
35: Led by Public Works Develop a local water supply plan	Complete	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	Not Started
43: Led by Chief Executive Office Create and implement a community-informed Urban Forest Management Plan that incorporates equitable urban forest practices, identifies County funding sources, and prioritizes 1. Tree- and park-poor communities; 2. Climate and watershed-appropriate and drought/ pest-resistant vegetation; 3. Appropriate watering, maintenance, and disposal practices; 4. Shading, and; 5. Biodiversity.	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	In Progress	Not Started	Not Applicable

ACTION STATUS TABLE

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Secure Funding	Complete Board Processes	Engage stakeholders	Plan, design, and/or develop program	Implementation	Evaluation
49: Led by Department of Regional Planning Expand the number and extent of transit oriented communities while ensuring that vital public amenities such as parks and active transportation infrastructure are included	Complete	In Progress	Complete	Complete	Not Started	Not Started
52: Led by Department of Regional Planning Promote walkability through various tools, including zoning that enables a mix of uses and pedestrian enhancements [East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan]	Not Applicable	Not Started	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	Not Started
52: Led by Department of Regional Planning Promote walkability through various tools, including zoning that enables a mix of uses and pedestrian enhancements [TOD Design Toolkit]	Complete	Complete	Complete	In Progress	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
59: Led by Chief Executive Office Collaborate with the City of Los Angeles and others to develop a "Just Transition" plan and task force that examines the impact of the transition to a cleaner economy on disadvantaged workers, identifies strategies for supporting displaced workers, and develops recommendations for ensuring inclusive employment practices within growth sectors of the economy	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started
65: Led by Chief Sustainability Office Promote the development and growth of community land trusts, housing cooperatives, and other models for the provision of permanently affordable rental and ownership housing, including by identifying appropriate public land. [Inclusionary Housing Ordinance]	Not Applicable	Not Started	In Progress	Not Applicable	Not Started	Not Started
65: Led by Department of Regional Planning Promote the development and growth of community land trusts, housing cooperatives, and other models for the provision of permanently affordable rental and ownership housing, including by identifying appropriate public land. [Transformative Climate Communities Grant]	Complete	Not Applicable	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete

ACTION STATUS TABLE

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Secure Funding	Complete Board Processes	Engage stakeholders	Plan, design, and/or develop program	Implementation	Evaluation
70: Led by Chief Executive Office and Dept of Regional Planning Increase coordination amongst and expand training of County and affiliated personnel with regards to promoting native and climate-resilient species selection, biodiversity, habitat quality, and connectivity	In Progress	Not Applicable	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started
78: Led by Chief Executive Office Collaborate with local tribes to identify and address barriers to observance of traditional practices such as harvesting and gathering, particularly on County-owned land	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started
85: Led by Public Works Collaborate with the City of Los Angeles, Santa Monica and other members of the Building Decarbonization Coalition to develop building energy and emissions performance standards that put the County on a path towards building decarbonization	Not Started	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	Not Started
88: Led by Internal Services Department Maximize the installation of solar and energy storage systems on County property whenever cost-effective	In Progress	Not Started	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	Not Started
100: Led by Public Works Offer free transit passes for students, youth, seniors, disabled, and low-income populations	In Progress	Not Started	Not Applicable	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started
104: Led by Department of Human Resources and Internal Services Department Pilot an alternative work site program for County employees	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
105: Led by Public Works and Public Health Implement the County's Vision Zero Action Plan within unincorporated communities and work with local jurisdiction to implement transportation safety enhancements that reduce traffic injuries and deaths	In Progress	Complete	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started
107: Led by Public Works and Internal Services Department In collaboration with the City of Los Angeles, develop and implement an equitable strategy to phase out single use plastics	Not Started	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	Not Started

ACTION STATUS TABLE

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Secure Funding	Complete Board Processes	Engage stakeholders	Plan, design, and/or develop program	Implementation	Evaluation
108: Led by Chief Executive Office and Public Works Adopt and advocate for producer and manufacturer responsibility requirements	Not Started	Not Applicable	In Progress	Not Applicable	In Progress	In Progress
132: Led by Department of Public Health and Department of Parks and Recreation Implement Good Food Purchasing Policy and/or other model policies that promote local, fair and sustainable production of agricultural products and seafood, prioritizing vendors with certifications for sustainable agricultural practices related to water, public health, energy use, pesticides, and workers' rights	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started
150: Led by Chief Executive Office Coordinate multi-jurisdictional efforts to seek local, state, federal and philanthropic funding to support *OurCounty* initiatives, and provide technical assistance for smaller jurisdictions and tribal governments	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started	Not Started

Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office

2020 Progress Report

OurCounty

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