

Envision PALMDALE 2045

Joint GPAC Meeting #13/Community Workshop

June 30th, 2021 | Policy Frameworks Series: Resilience,
Sustainability & Climate Change

Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded

Agenda

- Welcome & GPAC Roll Call
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approve Meeting #12 Minutes
- Policy Frameworks Background
- Defining Sustainability
- Palmdale climate change impacts and greenhouse gas emissions
- Public comment
- Next Steps

Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded



City Staff Introductions

- **Carlene Saxton**, Director of Economic & Community Development
- **Megan Taggart**, Planning Manager
- **Benjamin Fiss**, Senior Planner
- **Benjamin Lucha**, Environmental Resources Manager
- **Simran Malhotra**, Principal
- **Walker Wells**, Principal
- **Melissa Stark**, Senior Planner
- **Sami Taylor**, Senior Sustainability Planner

Roll Call – GPAC Members

- **Tony Avila**
- **Juan Blanco**
- **Lourdes T. Everett**
- **Colby Estes**
- **Laura Gordon**
- **Theresa Hambro**
- **Matthew Harris**
- **Aurora Hernandez**
- **Pat Hunt**
- **Sheri Kaneshiro**
- **Teri Lamping**
- **Deborah Rutkowski-Hines**
- **Jason Zink**

Pledge of Allegiance



*I pledge allegiance
to the flag of the
United States of
America*

*and to the
Republic for which
it stands, one
Nation under God,
indivisible,
with liberty and
justice for all.*

GPAC Meeting #12 Minutes

- Motion to approve or deny?

POLL

What You Need to Know: Questions and Comments

Questions and Comments

- We will be pausing during the presentation to answer questions
- There will be additional opportunity after the presentation to provide comments
- Public comment will take place at the end of the meeting
- Send additional questions or comments to **generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org**

POLL

General Plan Overview

What is a General Plan?

“Vision about how a community will grow, reflecting community priorities and values while shaping the future.”

- Long-term policy document to **guide the future actions** in Palmdale
- Establishes the **City’s vision** for the next 25 years
- Preserves and enhances **community strengths**
- Addresses a number of **topics of concern**
- Enables the community to come together to develop a **shared vision for the future**

What is a General Plan?

A General Plan is like a road map for the future of Palmdale.



1



General Plans describe the community's vision and identifies strategies for managing preservation and change.



The State of California requires every city and county to have a General Plan to guide growth.

2

3

General Plans typically include goals, policies, implementation strategies and supporting graphics.



These components work together to convey a long-term vision that will guide local decision making.



4

5

The General Plan also plays an important role in regulating land use. Its policies and maps form the foundation for City ordinances, guidelines and plans.



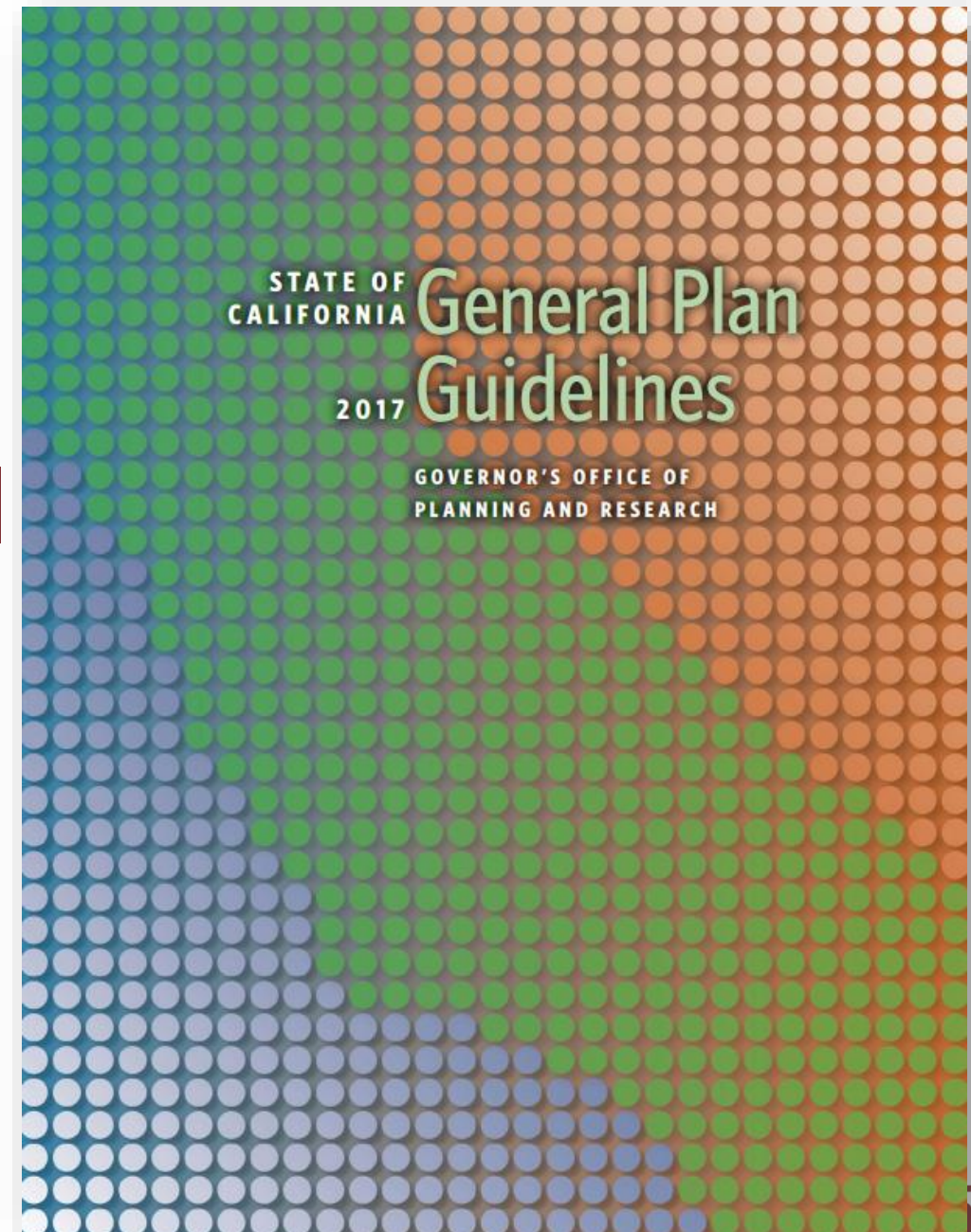
General Plan Requirements

Required Elements

- Land Use
- Circulation
- Housing
- Conservation
- Open Space
- Noise
- Safety
- Air Quality
- Environmental Justice

Additional Considerations

- Community Design
- Equitable and Resilient Communities
- Healthy Communities
- Economic Development
- Climate Change
- Military Readiness

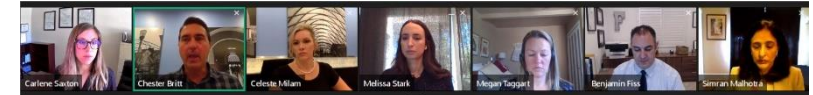


Palmdale 2045 Project Schedule



Summary of Engagement to Date

- 2 in-person workshops
- 9 pop-up workshops
- 3 rounds of stakeholder focus groups (1 in person & 1 remote)
- 2 live virtual presentations + Q&A sessions
- 3 online surveys
- 12 GPAC meetings (ongoing)
- 3 presentations to City Council
- 4 presentations to Planning Commission



Envision PALMDALE 2045
una comunidad completa

Thank you for joining us! The presentation will begin shortly.

Para escuchar la presentación en español, llame al 1-866-899-4679, código de acceso 593-934-637.

Connecting to Audio:

- Please make sure you connect to audio through your computer or by calling in by phone. To connect by phone, please call 1-877-399-2074, enter the Access Code 940-773-954, and then enter your unique Audio PIN which will appear on your screen.
- If you are having audio issues, please try the following: On the right-hand panel of your screen, under the Audio Tab, select to use either your computer audio or join via phone call. For phone call, dial the Access Code 940-773-954 and Audio PIN on the right-hand panel of your screen.

Please note that the audience will be automatically muted during the presentation.

If you have not already, please use this time to take our survey on the project website, Palmdale2045.org.

Major Vision Themes



Unified + welcoming



Vibrant Downtown



Diverse, high-quality jobs



Resilient local economy



Safe + healthy community



Quality medical + mental healthcare



Housing options for all stages of life + ability



Quality + accessible education



Preserve natural setting



Forefront of transportation Innovation

What are policy frameworks? And what do they include?

- Major topics that make up Elements of the General Plan
- An interim step in developing General Plan Elements
- An opportunity for community input on development of goals and policies



POLL

Existing Setting

What is Sustainability?

- Meet the needs of the present without preventing future generations from meeting their needs
- Needs are socially determined and should be met within global equality and ecological boundaries
- Dynamic between environment, economy, and social equity



Ways of Achieving Sustainability

Outcome	Methods
Reduce GHG Emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable energy sources • Increase transit use, walking + biking • Focus development in existing urban areas • Green buildings
Reduced Energy Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green buildings • Focus development in existing urban areas
Water Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green buildings • Climate appropriate vegetation and irrigation
Improved Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect habitat and biological functions • Low impact development (reduced urban runoff)
Improved Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect habitat and biological functions • Plant/preserve tree cover
Preserve habitat, natural areas and open spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus development in existing urban areas
Improved urban forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant/preserve tree cover

Levels of Action



Palmdale Climate Projections & Impacts

POLL

- Climate change resulting from GHG emissions leads to more frequent extreme-weather events, with **localized impacts**
- Climate impacts in Palmdale include:
 - **Excessive heat days**
 - **Poor air quality**
 - **Periods of drought and flood**
 - **Wildfire**
- As a result, California has adopted climate policies to help reduce emissions and adapt to changes



Climate Action Planning in California

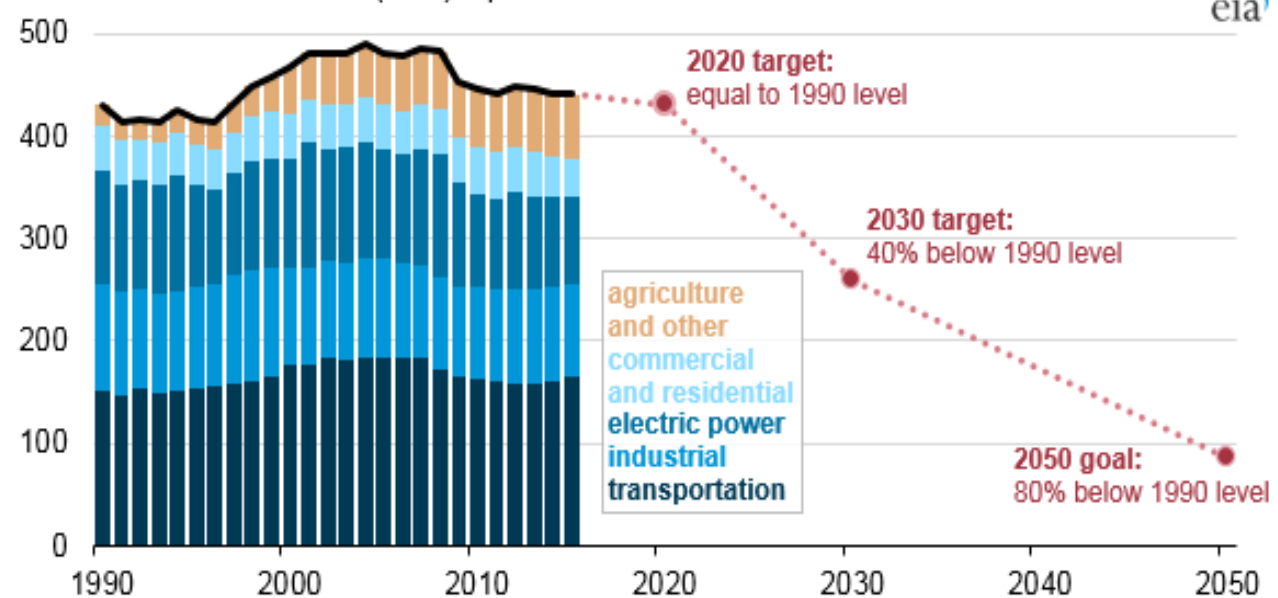
Climate Action Framework

- 2006: **AB 32** California's first GHG target to reduce emissions to 1990 levels by 2020
- 2016: **SB 32** extended AB 32, established 2030 goal to reduce emissions 40% and 2050 goal of reducing emissions 80% below 1990
- 2018: **EO B-55-18** established target of carbon neutrality by 2045

Climate Policy

- SB 100: Renewable Portfolio Standard - 100% carbon free electricity by 2045
- Pavley Clean Car Standards: emissions standards for passenger vehicles
- SB 1383: divert 75% of food scraps and other organic material from landfill disposal by 2025
- SB 379: Adaptation and Resiliency Planning

California greenhouse gas emissions by sector (1990-2015) and targets through 2050
million tons carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent



Environmental Policy in California

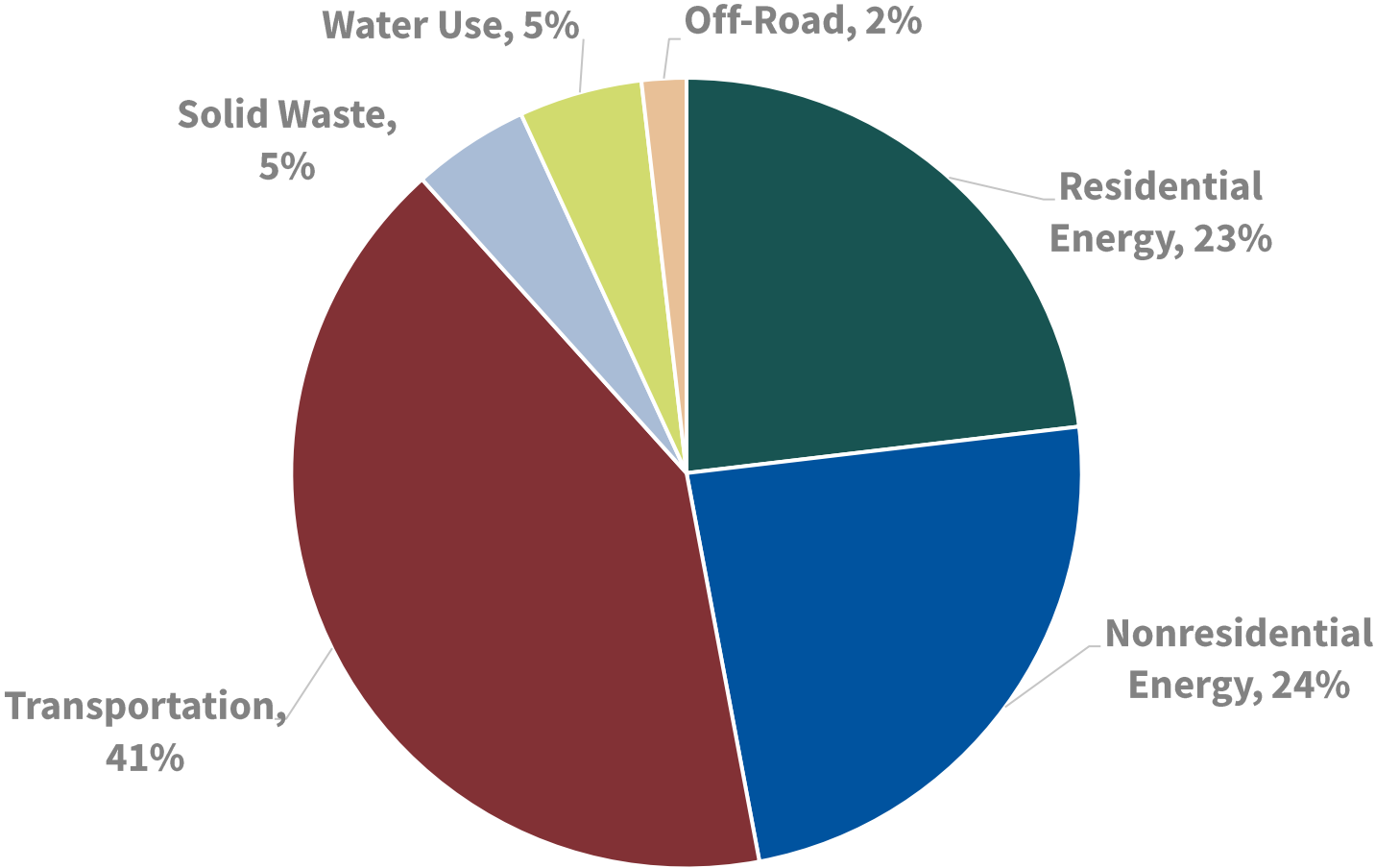
- **CALGreen and Title 24:** CA building code with energy and water efficiency requirements for new construction
- **AB 341:** 75% of solid waste must be diverted from landfill by 2020
- Model Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance (MWELO)
- **SB 606 and AB 1668:** develop new per capita water use targets that reduce overall water demand
- **EO N-79-20:** 100% of in-state vehicle sales are ZEVs by 2035



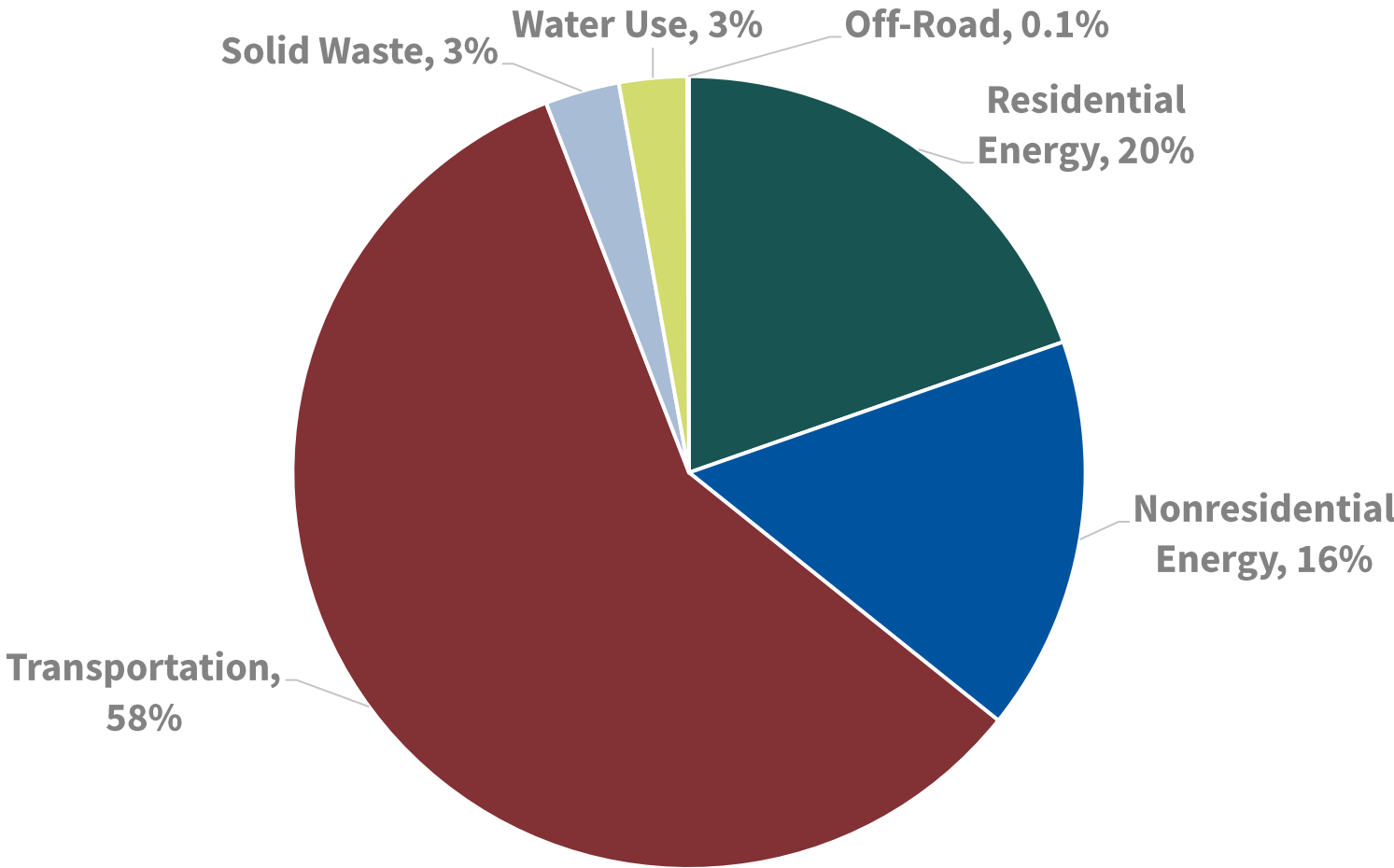
Palmdale GHG Emissions

The background image is a dark teal-tinted photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, there is a paved area with a manhole cover and some sparse vegetation. In the middle ground, a building with a sign that reads "PALMDALE CENTER" is visible. The background shows rolling hills and mountains under a clear sky. The overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting either dawn or dusk.

2005 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Profile



2017 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Profile



Note: emissions from nonresidential energy use are likely higher because energy use data has been omitted as a result of privacy and data aggregation laws

2045 Preferred Alternative Projections

↑ 31%
Population

↑ 95%
Jobs

↑ 48%
Housing Units

↑ 43%
Service Population

Palmdale Emissions Projections

↓ 15%
from 2005

Adjusted Business-as-Usual (ABAU)
Forecast

GHG Inventory Take-Aways



2017 total GHG emissions increased 9% from 2005 inventory but decreased 6% per service population



Transportation emissions make up the majority of community emissions followed by energy use connection to land use



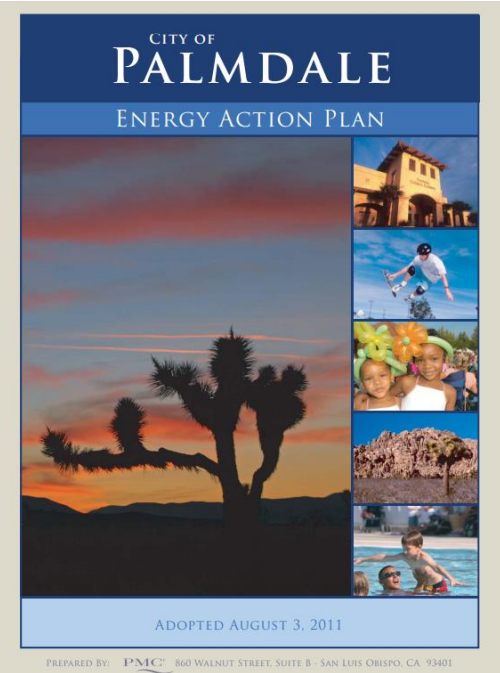
Emissions are projected to decrease by 2045 due to State policies but need local action to meet SB32 target of 40% reduction by 2030

Existing Plans & Programs

Existing Plans & Policies



- 2011 Palmdale Energy Action Plan (PEAP)
- Public EV Chargers
- Community Garden Program
- MWELO (2015)
- Native Desert Plant Preservation Ordinance
- Avenue Q Complete Streets
- SAVES edible food recovery



Feedback from Community Engagement

- Envision an eco-friendly future
- Protect native desert landscapes, habitat, open space
- Reduce pollution
- Improved transportation options and choices
- More trees and shade

Sustainability & Resilience Policy Framework

Sustainability, Climate Action, and Resilience Policy Framework

Introduction

The City of Palmdale has embarked on a comprehensive update to its General Plan, called "Envision Palmdale 2045: A Complete Community," to create a forward-looking document that will serve as the blueprint for the City's vision through the year 2045. The goals, policies, and actions in Palmdale 2045 will serve as a compass for decision-makers and will shape future plans and actions of the City. This revised policy document will replace the 1993 General Plan.

This sustainability, climate, and resilience policy framework is an interim step in the General Plan Update process prior to drafting the elements (or chapters). This framework highlights key outcomes and performance metrics related to sustainability and includes a draft policy framework that includes goals, policies, and implementation activities. This policy framework was developed by compiling feedback from community members, General Plan Advisory Committee members, Planning Commission, and City Council. This framework synthesizes critical issues and policy approaches by describing key strengths and opportunities, challenges, and threats, and what we heard from the community.

What is Sustainability?

Sustainability is often defined as the ability to meet the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainability is a cross-cutting issue that centers on environmental, social equity, and economic considerations. In specific terms, taking a sustainability approach means conserving energy and water, diverting waste from landfills, preparing for the potential impacts of climate change, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, among others.

Policy Frameworks = An Interim Step

- These are initial, general ideas for policy direction
- This is not an exhaustive list of policies or measures but rather, ideas we want you to review and react to
- Additional policies + measures will be included in the General Plan

Framework Structure

Performance Metrics

Data used to measure progress

Targets

Level of performance to measure implementation

Outcomes



Statement describing where we want to be in 2045

Goals

A general expression of community values and direction, expressed as ends

Policies + Measures

Policies: A specific statement that guides decision-making

Measures: An action, partnership, or program that carries out a policy

Integrating Sustainability into the General Plan

Sustainability Topics	General Plan Elements							Environmental Justice
	Land Use	Housing	Safety	Circulation	Open Space	Conservation	Noise	
Energy + GHG Emissions	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Transportation + Land Use	✓			✓				✓
Water Efficiency	✓				✓	✓		
Natural Systems + Ecology	✓				✓	✓		✓
Materials + Resources			✓			✓		✓
Quality of Life	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Desired Outcomes & Goals

**Regional
Environmental
Leader**

Green Buildings

**Resilient + Fossil
Fuel Free Energy**

**Reduced
Transportation
Emissions**

**Reduced Waste &
Increased Diversion**

**Secure, Clean
Water Supply**

**Preservation of
Open Space &
Ecosystems**

**Community
Resilience**

**Awareness of
Environmental Past
& Present**

Performance Metrics



Leadership

Carbon neutral
by 2045



Buildings

Reduce energy +
water use



Transportation

Reduce emissions
through
electrification



Solid Waste

Increase waste
diversion



Resilience

Number of
resilience hubs
created

Green and decarbonized buildings for new construction and major renovations

State Requirements

- Integrate CALGreen green building and energy efficiency standards into new construction and major remodels
- Building benchmarking for buildings larger than 50,000 sq. ft.
- Streamlined permitting process for residential solar installations

Proposed Policies

- Adopt local reach code for all-electric new construction and phase in existing buildings
- Require installation of photovoltaic panels and battery storage on all new construction
- Establish a streamlined approval process for battery storage systems
- Establish an energy and water efficiency upgrade program for existing buildings, focusing resources on the most underserved populations

Resilient & Fossil-Free Energy

State Requirements

- Renewable Portfolio Standards: utilities to provide 100% carbon-free electricity by 2045

Proposed Policies

- Pursue options to provide 100% carbon-free or renewable energy to residents and businesses
- Explore the development of community solar projects and microgrids
- Encourage use of solar + storage in new development and major renovations.

Reduced GHG emissions from transportation

State Requirements

- Pavley Clean Car Standards
- SB 375 sustainable transportation planning
- EO N-79-20: 100% of in-state vehicle sales are ZEVs by 2035

Proposed Policies

- Adopt EV readiness requirements for new construction
- Adopt City policy to purchase ZEV City fleet vehicles, when feasible
- Require use of clean fuels for medium- & heavy-duty vehicles and lawn/garden equipment

Increased resource capture and reduced landfilled waste

State Requirements

- SB 1383 divert 75% of food scraps and other organic material from landfill disposal by 2025 and implement edible food waste recovery program

Proposed Policies

- Create a zero-waste plan for municipal operations and the community
- Establish programs to comply with requirements for organics and food waste diversion
- Develop an education program for residents and businesses on composting, recycling, and reuse of materials
- Explore modifying waste franchise agreements to establish rate structures that encourage nonresidential collection frequency efficiency

Secure and safe water supply

State Requirements

- Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO)
- CALGreen water fixture efficiency requirements for new construction and major renovations

Proposed Policies

- Increase availability of recycled water supply
- Establish water efficiency standards more stringent than CALGreen and MWELO
- Implement the City's landscape plant list and use of low-water, plants in landscaped areas
- Encourage rainwater capture and use of cisterns for outdoor watering purposes
- Establish a streamlined permitting process for greywater systems

Proactively advance community resilience

State Requirements

- SB 379: adaptation and resiliency planning
- AB 2140: incorporate LHMP into General Plan Safety Element

Proposed Policies

- Address areas of vulnerability, exposure, and sensitivity for physical infrastructure and communities
- Work with energy supplier to minimize impacts of Public Safety Power Shutoffs
- Add resilience features to community facilities to provide basic services during disruptive events or disasters
- Create a pre-disaster recovery plan
- Develop policies to ensure that housing units damaged during a natural disaster are rebuilt in ways that advance the policies, objectives, and actions of the General Plan

Awareness of environmental past & present

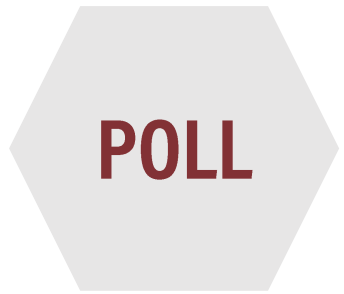
State Requirements

- SB 1000: consider environmental justice implications in government planning

Proposed Policies

- Integrate environmental and sustainability issues into City decision-making processes, operations, and community activities
- Acknowledge and celebrate the indigenous history and tradition of the area now known as Palmdale
- Include sustainability criteria in budgeting and prioritization efforts through a “triple bottom line” approach
- Provide interpretive displays and other information on natural systems at parks, nature centers, and trailheads

Goals Recap



**Regional
Environmental
Leader**

Green Buildings

**Resilient + Fossil
Fuel Free Energy**

**Reduced
Transportation
Emissions**

**Reduced Waste &
Increased Diversion**

**Secure, Clean
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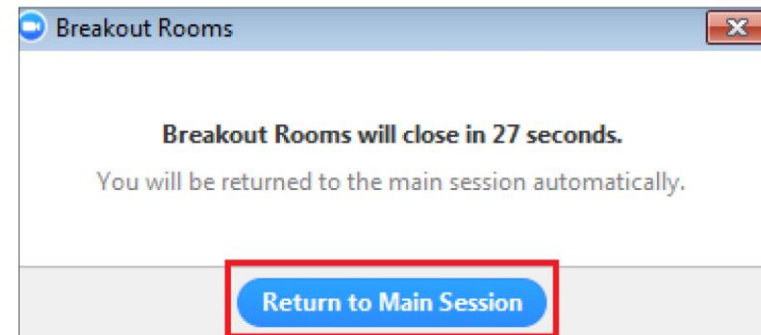
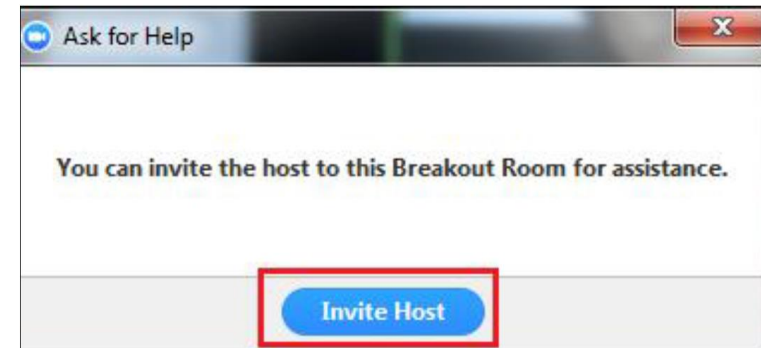
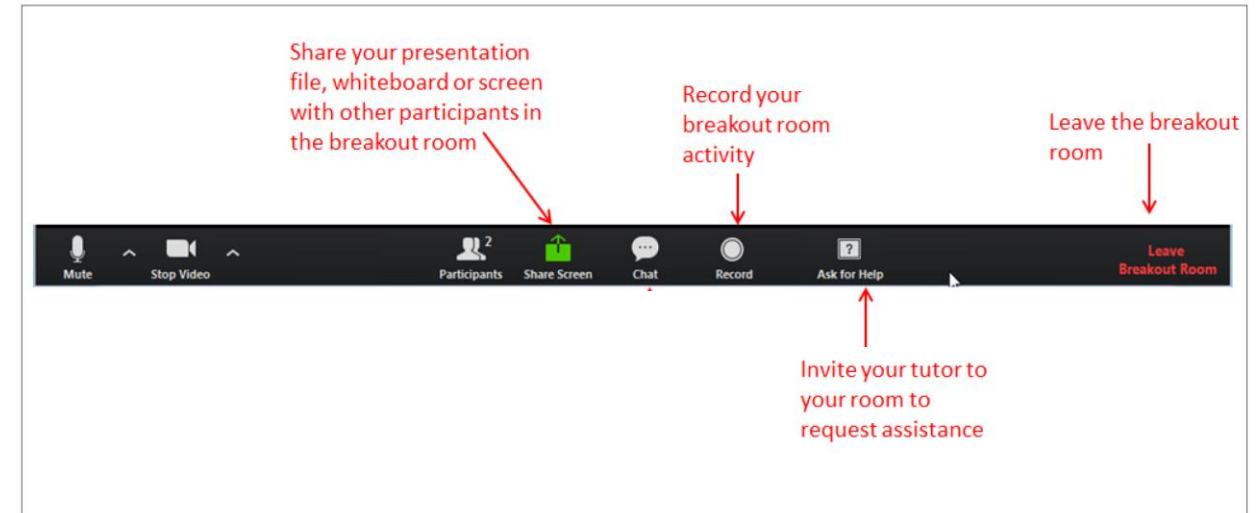
A dark teal overlay on a photograph of a desert landscape. In the background, a sign with the word 'PALM' is visible. The scene includes desert plants, a paved area, and distant hills under a clear sky.

Discussion



Breakout Rooms

- Breakout rooms allow **participation from more people** during a large meeting
- The meeting “host” will invite you and may set a timer, broadcast announcements, or pop-in to help
- “Participant” controls looks very similar to those in main session
- Brief disconnection then reconnected into the new breakout room



Small Group Instructions

- Introductions
- Questions for clarification
- Discuss each question (5-15 min each)
 - **Are there any outcomes we should consider?**
 - **Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?**
 - **Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?**
 - **Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?**
- Consensus is NOT required
- Facilitator will record all comments

The background image shows a residential area with a sign that says "PALM" in the center. The sign is partially obscured by the text. The scene includes houses, palm trees, and a road. The entire image is covered with a dark teal overlay.

Report Back



Public Comment

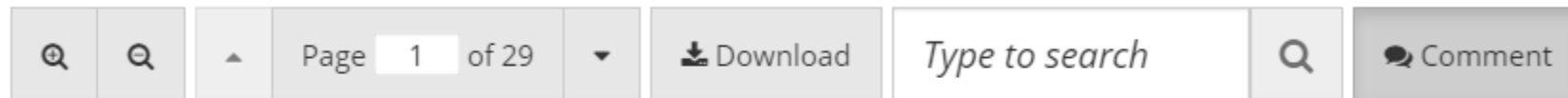
You can also email generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org


The background is a photograph of a desert landscape, likely a park or public space, featuring a stone archway with the word 'PALM' visible. The scene is overlaid with a dark teal color. The text 'Next Steps' is centered in white, with a white horizontal line below it.

Next Steps

Ongoing Feedback

Policy Frameworks will be available on the website to provide direct feedback




Click anywhere in the document to add a comment. Select a  bubble to view comments.



- Zoom In and Out
- Turn pages
- Search words
- Comment

Policy Framework - Comments

1

Click anywhere in the document to add a comment. Select a  bubble to view comments.

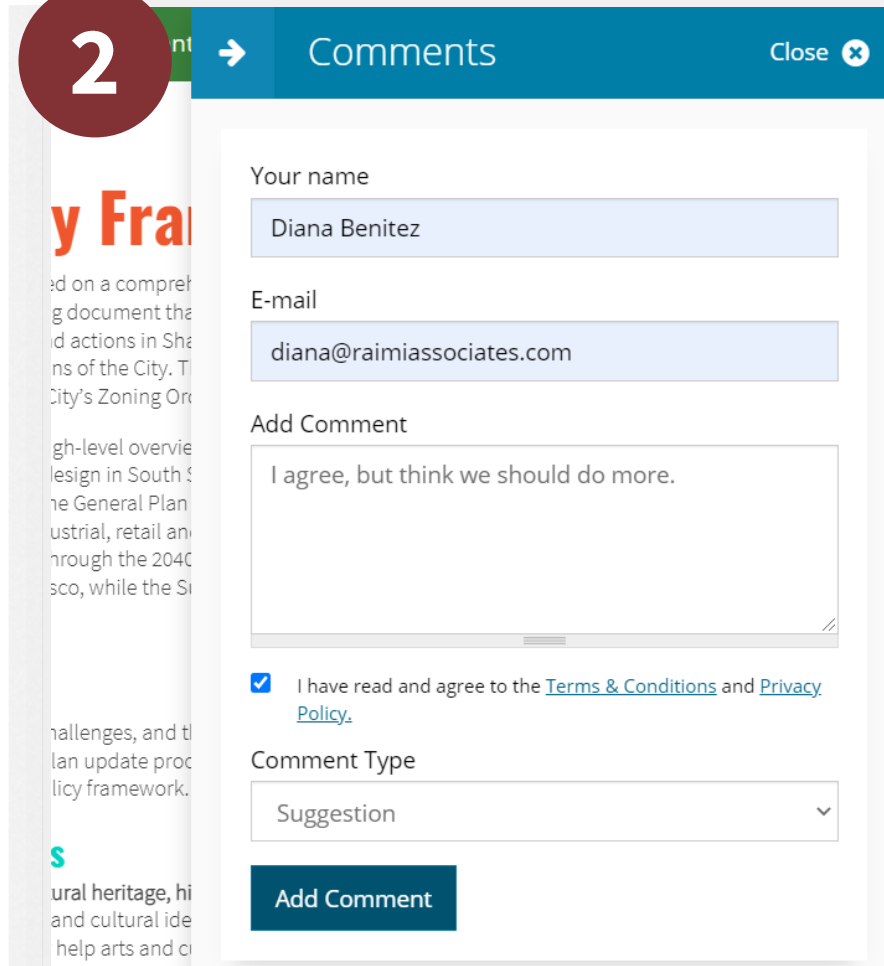


1. **Click** anywhere to add a comment

2. **Add** name, email, comments type and comment

3. **Interact** with other survey participants by like/dislike and replying to comments

2



Comments Close

Your name
Diana Benitez

E-mail
diana@raimiassociates.com

Add Comment
I agree, but think we should do more.

I have read and agree to the [Terms & Conditions](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

Comment Type
Suggestion

Add Comment

3



Comments Close

Diana Benitez Mar 12 2021 at 8:24PM **Suggestion**
I agree, but think we should do more.
reply 1 0

Lina Mar 12 2021 at 8:25PM **Suggestion**
No, this policy is more than enough for commercial areas.
reply 1 0

Upcoming Policy Framework Meetings

All Meetings will be virtual from 6:30-8:30 pm

- **Thursday, July 15th** *Land use, mobility, and housing – Part 1*
- **Wednesday, July 28th** *Land use, mobility, and housing – Part 2*
- **Thursday, August 5th** *Economic development and military readiness*
- **Wednesday, August 11th** *Health, environmental justice, equity, parks + public facilities*

Upcoming Events and Next Steps



Thank you!

City of Palmdale

Phone

661-267-5200

Email

generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org