



Member Adaptation Projects and Initiatives

Note to CRC Members: We received this list of projects and initiatives from our members via a survey that we sent out in early 2017. We understand that it is by no means a comprehensive list of member projects, we will continue to update it as we receive additional examples. If you have any corrections or additions, please email them to Alicia Brown (abrown@lgc.org). Please also note that we plan to share this information on the CRC website so other regional stakeholders have a sense of the work being pursued by our members.

350 Sacramento

350 Sacramento is working on an initiative to make the Sacramento region carbon neutral and is also working with Sacramento Regional Transit and multiple stakeholders to improve, expand, and electrify the local transit system.

Ascent Environmental

Ascent Environmental conducts vulnerability assessments and works to incorporate adaptation into Climate Action Plans. Currently they are working with Native American tribes on incorporating adaptation into natural resources management planning.

City of Sacramento

200-Year Floodplain Ordinance

The City amended the Sacramento City Code to comply with provisions of state law (per SB5) which requires local jurisdictions to make specific findings prior to approving certain land use entitlements and other permits for projects located within a flood hazard zone. The ordinance went into effect on July 1, 2016.

General Plan Update

In 2017, the City will begin the process of budgeting and scoping the next General Plan update. The scope will include an update of the CAP and GHG inventory, an Environmental Justice Element (per SB1000), and a VMT threshold instead of a Level of Service requirement (per SB743).

Downtown Specific Plan

The City is developing a Downtown Specific Plan to support of the City's goal of adding 10,000 dwelling units in the next 10 years. The plan will also coordinate design guidelines and standards for the shared streetcar route, as well as enhance the connection between Sacramento and West Sacramento with public art.

Ready-Made Landscaping Program

The City is developing ready-made landscape templates for water-efficient landscaping (sample designs, plant pallets, procedures) to assist the public in converting turf-based landscapes to water-efficient landscapes.

Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone Ordinance



The City will continue to implement its UAIZ Ordinance to create a more resilient food system within City boundaries. The ordinance allows property owners of vacant, blighted, or unimproved lots to receive tax benefits if the property remains in active agricultural use for five years.

Community Resource Project

CRP provides weatherization measures and Solar PV for low income communities throughout Sacramento, Yuba and Sutter Counties, and also offers LEAD remediation under a state contract. CRP is currently developing a one megawatt solar system to benefit a business district in one of the disadvantaged areas of Sacramento to lower energy costs and provide renewable energy to SMUD.

County of Sacramento

Communitywide Climate Action Plan

The County is currently working on a Communitywide Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Climate Action Plan (Communitywide CAP). The Communitywide CAP will include strategies that will both reduce greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change and help the community prepare for and adapt to the effects of climate change. Community workshops will be held in January and February. The County is seeking participation in the workshops and comments on the draft plan and adaptation measures (forthcoming in early 2017).

Institute for Local Government

Adaptation in Sustainability Best Practices Framework

In 2017, ILG will build on its research and local government partnerships by updating its popular Sustainability Best Practices Framework to include health and adaptation best practices submitted by Beacon Program participants.

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Forest Health and Streamflow Research

This long-term project proposes to work with landowners and other stakeholders in the Upper American River Project to establish specific forest treatment study areas, establish or expand the existing sensor network for data collection, document baseline and post-treatment conditions, and evaluate results.

Regional Biosequestration Potential Study

SMUD is investigating ways to sequester carbon that can restore natural systems and provide cleaner air, cleaner water, flood protection, expanded wildlife habitat and protection of agricultural and range lands in and around its service territory. Based on initial research conducted in 2013 and 2014 on the largest potential for local carbon offset project development and major opportunities for regional carbon neutrality, SMUD will evaluate the potential for public-private partnership to accelerate carbon sequestration in the land base.



Cool Roof Incentive Program

SMUD offers rebates for homeowners installing cool roof materials that meet initial standards of solar reflectance and thermal emissivity.

Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

SMAQMD's planning division works with local jurisdictions to ensure that land use projects reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions. SMAQMD also works with CivicSpark Fellows to provide home weatherization retrofits for low-income families in Sacramento and encourage food waste diversion by businesses, which reduces methane emissions.

Wildfire Impacts on Air Quality

SMAQMD commissioned a study on the impact of wildfires on ozone concentrations in the Sacramento region from 2011 to 2015. The results showed that wildfire smoke, which contains ozone precursors, affected 35% of the days in which ozone exceeded the 8-hr maximum ozone concentration of 70ppb.

Sacramento Water Forum

Lower American River Modified Flow Management Standard

The Modified Flow Management Standard is an adaptive operational approach to managing flows in the lower American River to meet ecosystem and water supply objectives. The M-FMS builds and improves upon the 2006 FMS to include minimum release requirements and adjustments, water temperature management, and monitoring and adaptive management.