

Climate Action Plan Update

To support California's ambitious emissions reduction goals, in 2015, the City of Carlsbad was one of the first cities in the county to adopt a Climate Action Plan that outlined strategies and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in a measurable way.

Since 2015, state targets have been updated, and the city has more current information about the amount of greenhouse gas emissions generated by different sources in Carlsbad. The Climate Action Plan Update reflects the most recent data and legislation.

Climate action plans are comprehensive roadmaps that outline the specific activities that a government agency will undertake to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These plans typically include:

- Specific city-sponsored initiatives and actions that the city controls directly, such as operations at city buildings and the types of cars in the city's fleet.
- Policies to direct, guide or influence actions of third parties, such as a requirement to recycle food scraps and energy efficiency standards for new building construction.

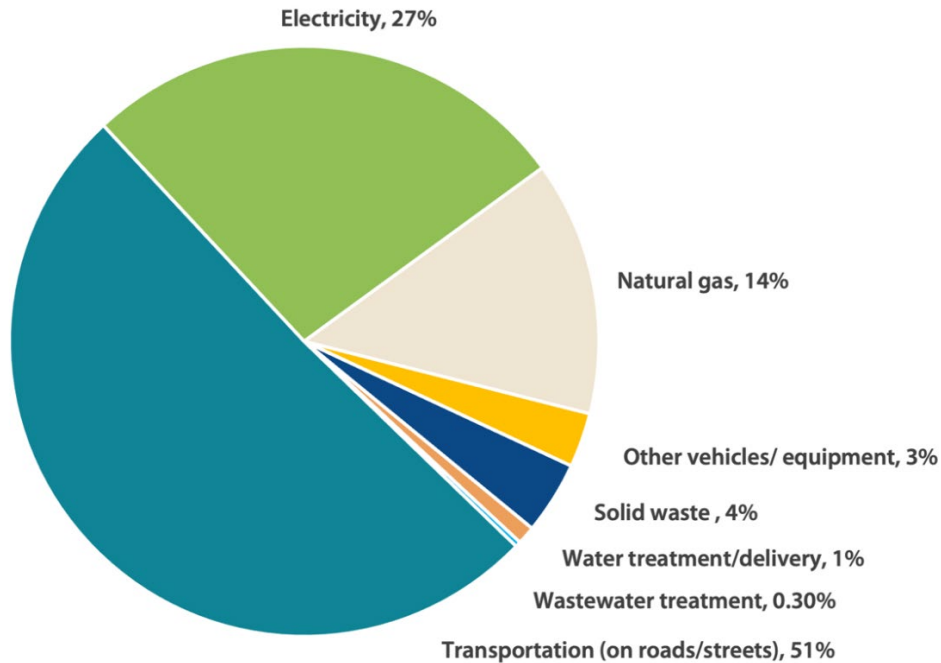
Greenhouse gas reduction measures

The Climate Action Plan Update includes 25 measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, grouped into six categories or "strategies." These measures align the city with the State of California's targets while also addressing the specific needs of the Carlsbad community, including low-income and historically disadvantaged communities.



Greenhouse gas emissions in Carlsbad

An updated greenhouse gas emissions analysis informed the Climate Action Plan Update and greenhouse reduction measures. This analysis included a 2016 inventory covering all greenhouse gas emissions-generating activities in Carlsbad.



Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere are often called “greenhouse gases,” or GHGs. Burning fossil fuels generates greenhouse gas emissions, like carbon dioxide and methane, which contribute to climate change.

How are greenhouse gases generated in Carlsbad?

Greenhouse gas emissions typically come from the following actions:

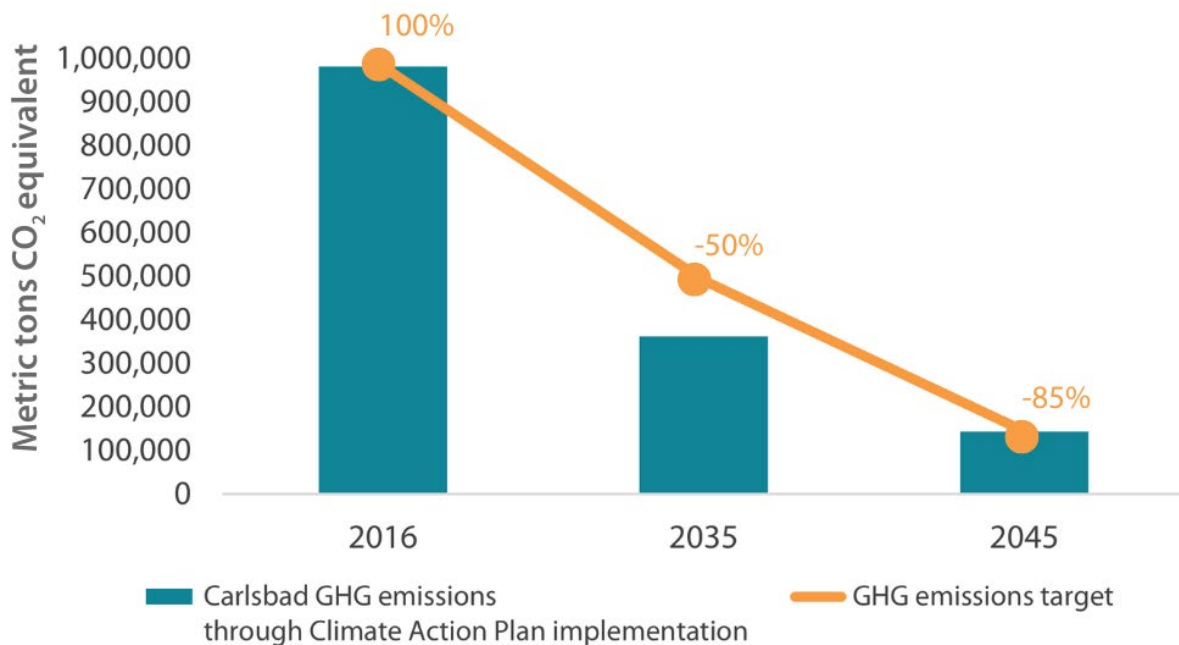
- The operation of city offices, community centers, libraries and other buildings
- Energy to operate streetlights and traffic signals
- Energy required to pump water to homes and businesses
- Energy required to pump wastewater from homes and businesses to the treatment plant, plus the energy to treat and dispose of the wastewater
- Vehicles, such as fire trucks, police cars, utility trucks and cars
- Equipment like bulldozers, skip loaders and excavators
- Power generation for homes and businesses
- Energy needed to collect and process trash, recycling and organics

Greenhouse gas reduction targets

California state laws set targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions. The city's Climate Action Plan Update outlines measures to achieve these reduction targets.

The Climate Action Plan Update outlines strategies and measures to achieve the following greenhouse gas emission reductions:

- 50% below 2016 emissions by 2035
- 85% below 2016 levels by 2045



Tracking the city's progress

To track Climate Action Plan Update progress, the city will collect data to measure the success of the greenhouse gas reduction measures and report this information annually, along with any greenhouse gas inventory updates.

Help Carlsbad achieve its goals

The success of the Climate Action Plan Update relies on the participation of all community members. Visit carlsbadca.gov/cap to learn about easy and cost-effective ways residents and businesses can reduce their carbon footprint.