

Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office
2023 Annual Report
OurCounty Sustainability Plan

Land Acknowledgement for the County of Los Angeles

The County of Los Angeles recognizes that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants — past, present, and emerging — as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multigenerational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website at anaic.lacounty.gov.

Introduction

It has been over four years since the OurCounty Plan (OurCounty) was adopted by the Board of Supervisors (Board). As the first ever regional sustainability plan for Los Angeles County, it set ambitious targets such as achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, sourcing 80% of our water locally by 2045, installing 130,000 new public electric vehicle chargers by 2035 and so much more. By aiming high, we challenged ourselves to meet the urgency of this moment and placed the County on a path towards a healthier and more resilient future.

Through the hard work of people, organizations, and departments across the County, that ambition is becoming a reality. We have moved to 100% renewable energy for the vast majority of customers, which not only cuts carbon emissions but will improve air quality across the region. Through the Safe, Clean Water Program, we can now capture 900 acre feet of water annually, enough to meet the needs of 1,800 households each year. The number of electric vehicle chargers installed by the County has nearly tripled, supporting the rise in zero-emissions vehicles. We have improved park equity with 12 acres of new parkland developed and a new regional aquatic center for communities to enjoy. In this last year alone, significant milestones were achieved including:

- Passing a landmark ordinance phasing out oil and gas extraction in unincorporated LA County
- Releasing the Just Transition Strategy Report that supports workers and communities impacted by the oil and gas ordinance
- Banning polystyrene and single-use service ware at restaurants, which will reduce landfill waste
- Adopting the County's first ever a Formal Land Acknowledgement
- Developing the Florence-Firestone Transit-Oriented District (TOD) Specific Plan to foster connectivity and livability in South Central LA
- Passing a permanent rent stabilization ordinance and an inclusionary housing ordinance securing affordable housing for thousands
- Releasing the first ever Los Angeles County Food Equity Roundtable Action Plan

The impact of this work not only has long-term benefits for the region but provides tangible improvements for residents today. There is still much to be done, and with federal funding for programs like the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant that will be administered by the County, cities across the region can chart a course towards a more equitable and healthy future for all to enjoy. Over the coming year, the Chief Sustainability Office will continue working closely with departments and partners on program implementation while looking ahead at the update to OurCounty. It is by setting and committing to bold and aggressive targets that LA County can realize its ambition and build a better future for generations to come.

Implementation

Each year, the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) and County departments work with partners and stakeholders to turn our collective vision into a reality. Implementation of OurCounty is a long-term commitment, with some of our goals and targets reaching over 25 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. Each year in the fall, the CSO releases an Annual Report, which includes progress reports on priority actions

and an updated priority action list for the coming year. Per the Board's direction, the CSO will engage stakeholders in the prioritization process and the reporting process for the Annual Report each year, and we welcome feedback from our stakeholders at any time.

This Discussion Draft Annual Report contains progress updates on all of the ongoing actions identified by County departments and stakeholders as priority actions for 2023. It also contains an updated list of priority actions for the coming year. Each year, the list of priority actions builds off of the previous year's list, with some actions being completed, some actions being temporarily deprioritized, and new actions being added based on department and stakeholder feedback. Once finalized, the priorities list in each Annual Report will guide implementation for the coming year, and the CSO will then report progress on those priorities in the following year's Annual Report. For example, public feedback on the priorities list in this 2023 Discussion Draft Annual Report will inform the final list of priorities for the coming year, and CSO will report progress on those priorities in the 2024 Annual Report. We welcome feedback on both the progress updates and the draft priorities list in this 2023 Annual Report.

The final version of the 2023 Annual Report will be released in fall 2023. This Discussion Draft was posted for public review on August 7, 2023, and the public comment period will remain open through August 25, 2023. CSO will also host virtual office hours for stakeholders during the public comment period. Please visit our website <https://cso.lacounty.gov/the-plan/get-involved> for more information on the virtual office hours.

Callout Box: Engagement with OurCounty Actions

Stakeholder engagement is crucial to the Annual Report, but engagement with OurCounty is not limited to the Annual Report public comment period. The County is committed to engaging stakeholders in the implementation of each action, as described in the action summaries below. 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 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. We welcome questions, comments, and feedback about stakeholder engagement during the public comment period.

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.

Goal 1: Resilient and healthy community environments where residents thrive in place

Action 1: Limit siting of new sensitive uses, such as playgrounds, daycare centers, schools, residences, or medical facilities, at least 500 feet from freeways.

Lead Department: DRP
Horizon: Medium Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Freeways are a major source of air pollution in the County. Evidence shows that the health impacts associated with air pollution from freeways, including asthma, impaired lung function, and cardiovascular disease, are most significant within 500 feet of the freeway. This action intends to prevent the siting of sensitive uses - such as residential units, childcare centers, and school facilities - near freeways to reduce exposure of sensitive populations to poor air quality. Since there is a need to develop affordable new housing and associated facilities in the County, planning to undertake that development in a way that protects a healthy living environment for all County residents is critical.

What progress has been made?

DRP takes an active role in preventing the siting of sensitive uses 500 feet from freeways through the land use counseling of potential and future development in ongoing Pre-Application Counseling meetings, over-the-counter counseling, and the project review of discretionary land use permits. Land Use Plans and Specific Plans, such as Transit Oriented District Special Plans, are also drafted with this impact in mind.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Through policies, strategic siting counseling, and mitigation of impacts, DRP implements this action on an on-going basis. In the coming year, DRP will assess this Action to ensure all County objectives are thoughtfully considered in future programs and policies.

Action 2: Expand the minimum setback distance for oil and gas operations from sensitive land uses.

Lead Department: DRP
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 Board of Supervisors adopted the Oil Well Ordinance on January 24, 2023, which prohibits new oil wells and production facilities, designates existing oil wells and production facilities as nonconforming due to use, and establishes consistent regulations for existing oil wells and production facilities during the amortization period, in the unincorporated areas. It also removed the exception for oil wells from noise and vibration regulations.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

With the Ordinance now in effect, oil and gas production at nearly 1,000 active wells will be phased out, improving the health and wellbeing of surrounding communities. An amortization study is underway to determine if a phase-out period for nonconforming uses could be shorter than the default 20 years prescribed by County code. The process to amend the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD) is underway and will make the CSD, which includes one of the most productive oil fields, the Inglewood Oil Field, consistent with the Oil Well Ordinance

DRP continues to partner with County agencies and the Just Transition Task Force to address the remaining Board directives.

Action 3: Conduct an inventory to identify all abandoned/idled oil and gas infrastructure in LA County, and work with the California Department of Conservation Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) to develop and implement a closure plan, prioritized by condition and proximity to sensitive populations, that includes identification of potential funding sources.

Lead Department: PW
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of Influence: Direct

About this Action

Idle and abandoned wells can pose a significant risk to human and environmental health by leaking toxic pollutants into the air, contaminating soil and groundwater, and releasing the highly potent greenhouse gas - methane. In unincorporated areas of LA County, there are over 3,400 idle or abandoned wells, many in close proximity to residents. Identifying these sites and developing a plan to cap and plug them is critical to the safety and well-being of surrounding communities. Because many idle and abandoned wells have no known operator, also identifying funding opportunities is important to the implementation of such a plan.

What progress has been made?

The County Office of Oil and Gas conducted a study of the idle wells located within unincorporated County areas and prioritized the wells based on their potential impact to public health and safety. The County identified 19 high priority idle wells and requested CalGEM investigate them and determine whether these wells should be plugged and abandoned.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Based on CalGEM's initial investigation of the 19 high priority idle wells, the County Office of Oil and Gas will coordinate with them on the appropriate next steps. Additionally, the Office of Oil and Gas will work with CalGEM to identify high priority wells in unincorporated County areas that can be included in their Orphan Well Screening & Prioritization Methodology.

CalGEM will utilize new state and federal funding to address orphan wells throughout the state, including the initial \$25 million grant funding to California through the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The County Office of Oil and Gas will seek funding to continue the administration of the work of the Office including the coordination efforts between the involved departments including DRP, DPH, CSO, and LACoFD as well as managing the contract to conduct site inspections of the idle wells.

Action 4: Require oil and gas facility operators to prepare and make available to the public a comprehensive Community Safety Plan, in coordination with County departments, including Fire, Public Works, and Law Enforcement.

Lead Department: DPH
Horizon: Medium Term
Sphere of Influence: Direct

About this Action

There are currently 68 active oil fields in the Los Angeles Basin, with facilities operating under a wide range of operational and environmental conditions. In some neighborhoods, such as South Los Angeles, residences are located only several feet away from the boundary of a drilling site and as close as 60 feet from an active oil well. Oil and gas operations are commonly located in disadvantaged neighborhoods, and nearby residents may have little information about operations occurring on oil fields within feet of their homes. The Community Safety Plan (CSP) will provide information on operations occurring at the site, what the potential health and safety hazards are for community members, what mitigations are being employed to reduce risk for community members, and whom to contact with questions or to report problems. The Community Safety Plan will empower communities by giving them tools to hold polluters accountable, raise awareness of the mitigations and protections of community health and safety that operators are responsible for, allow for quicker identification of environmental problems caused by oil and gas operations, and provide avenues for communications between oil and gas operators, community members, and public agencies to improve environmental conditions for those living, working and playing near these industrial operations.

What progress has been made?

As noted in Action 2, On January 24, 2023, the new Oil Well Ordinance went into effect, prohibiting new drilling and declaring oil wells a non-conforming use in all zones in unincorporated Los Angeles County, effectively phasing out oil and gas development in Los Angeles County unincorporated areas. Because the use is no longer allowed, there is no longer a plan to add new health protections including requiring operators to develop Community Safety Plans.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

County departments are working together to identify avenues to require needed health protections for redevelopment of oil and gas properties, including through the Just Transition Task Force. DPH will continue to look for opportunities to include community safety plans as part of a package of health protections that should be required for ongoing oil and gas operations and for eventual redevelopment of these properties.

Action 5: Expand the role for DPH in the initial siting process and the ongoing enforcement of regulations for industrial facilities.

Lead Department: DPH
Horizon: Medium Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

In Los Angeles County, some communities are more exposed to environmental risks than others. These include places with a high density of industrial facilities that contribute to air, soil, and water contamination near homes, schools, and daycares. DPH will work to further environmental justice goals by informing land use decisions to reduce the placement of environmental hazards in close proximity to sensitive populations and land use types.

What progress has been made?

In the past year, DPH has focused efforts on further development of its Land Use Program. DPH onboarded and trained staff newly assigned to serve as the Liaison to the DRP and subject matter experts. Initial training has been provided on unequal environmental burdens, utilizing data and mapping from CalEnviroScreen and appropriate public health mitigation measures. DPH is finalizing a fee for service for document review and consultation. Cost recovery will be established to allow for reviewing reports, understanding the impacts in the context of environmental justice, and promoting alternatives or mitigation measures to minimize significant effects on public health.

DPH is finalizing an issue brief on environmental noise pollution, which is closely tied to land use practices and is known to affect communities near industrial sites. The brief is intended to raise awareness about the health impacts from community level noise exposure and will provide recommendations on local regulatory practices to address noise pollution.

DPH continues to respond to ongoing major land use projects with technical review and input on potential health impacts to surrounding communities. This has included the East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan, the Metro Area Plan, and participation in DPR's Industrial Use Task Force.

Additionally, in response to the April 5, 2022 Board of Supervisors motion entitled "Evolving and Advancing the Board Directed Priority: Environmental Justice and Climate Health," DPH is currently undergoing a strategic planning process to develop a comprehensive scope of work for the Office of Environmental Justice and Climate Health, advancing the County's commitment to improving environmental conditions and related health outcomes. This is being done through engagement with relevant countywide stakeholders and in collaboration with County departments, including PW, CSO, DRP, LACoFD, and other DPH programs.

This process will include examining ways to integrate community-based holistic health policies into decision-making for initial siting, permitting, and regulatory enforcement of industrial facilities in highly burdened communities.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

In the next year, DPH will continue to build out the Land Use Program, including hiring additional staff to meet the demands of development. As additional staff are on-boarded, DPH will provide trainings and continue efforts to build capacity to establish protections for communities near industrial sites through the discretionary land use process.

As the Land Use Program continues to be established over the next year, DPH will conduct ongoing program evaluation to ensure review of discretionary land use proposals and plans consider factors such as environmental justice, cumulative environmental impacts, and public health and safety. Further evaluation includes staff capability to provide requirements, conditions, restrictions, and/or recommendations to prevent and mitigate potential public health impacts on contaminated sites undergoing redevelopment.

Action 7: Utilize fenceline and community air monitoring data to improve emissions regulations on refineries and other industrial facilities and expand enforcement resources for these regulations.

Lead Department: DPH
Horizon: Medium Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Refineries and other industrial facilities, such as hazardous materials operations, are commonly located in disadvantaged neighborhoods, and nearby residents may have little information about operations occurring within feet from their homes. Emissions from these facilities have many potential sources, including undetected leaks, which are called fugitive emissions. Fenceline and community air monitoring can be used to detect and monitor emissions, including providing information about the possible sources of the emissions, the types of pollutants, and the air quality implications for nearby communities. Community air monitoring and emissions reduction plans will provide information on operations occurring at the site, clarify the potential health and safety hazards for community members, show what mitigations are being employed to reduce risk for community members, and explain whom to contact for regulatory enforcement.

What progress has been made?

During FY 22-23, DPH's Office of Environmental Justice and Climate Health (OEJCH) reviewed on-going community air monitoring for hexavalent chromium in Paramount and West Rancho Dominguez and for ethylene oxide in Vernon/Maywood and the City of Carson. During this reporting period, OEJCH also began reviewing air monitoring data from the Chiquita Canyon Landfill. OEJCH regularly reviews the above data collected by South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) or contractors (in the case of Paramount and Chiquita Canyon) and works with SCAQMD or other applicable agencies to address any exceedances. Additionally, air monitoring data and applicable mitigation efforts are posted on OEJCH websites to keep the community informed, including contact information for the

agencies involved. In some circumstances, community health advisories will be issued for specific events or exceedances.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The plan is to continue to review the above air monitoring activities and contact the applicable enforcement agencies in case of any exceedances. OEJCH will also continue to keep the community informed via its websites and health advisories as appropriate.

Action 8: Plan and implement a new lead-based paint hazard remediation program.

Lead Department: DPH, LACDA

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

More than 3,000 children are diagnosed with elevated blood lead levels each year in the County. Lead is a toxin that causes irreversible brain damage, and children are especially susceptible because they are still developing. Lead poisoning is completely preventable, and elimination of lead-based paint hazards will help generations of Angelenos thrive. The County will receive approximately \$134 million over a period of seven years starting in 2019, as part of a landmark 19-year litigation against three major paint companies, with a total of \$305 million for 10 participating jurisdictions across California. Funds are earmarked for lead-based paint hazard remediation services throughout the County.

What progress has been made?

Lead Free Homes Los Angeles (LFHLA) implementation resumed services in summer 2021 after being paused for over a year due to the COVID pandemic. The program targets areas where there is a large pre-1951 housing stock, high prevalence of low-income families, and significant population of children under the age of six. Maps were generated with these variables to drive the implementation plan.

LFHLA partnered with local community agencies and health departments to create tailored recruitment strategies such as door-knocking, mailers, and attendance at community events. Concurrently, media campaign strategies such as text messages, social media, and flyers are used to maximize recruitment efforts. Prior to recruitment in targeted neighborhoods, the program engages with community stakeholders to provide background on concerns with lead and describe program services. Through these engagement activities, stakeholders contribute to the development of customized community outreach plans, including by sharing successes and challenges of their own work in the community.

As of May 30, 2023

- 1,305 homes are enrolled
- 1,079 units were tested for lead paint hazards
- 1,008 units have been confirmed with lead paint hazards
- 297 homes have completed remediation
- To improve the speed of remediation, a new solicitation for lead paint remediation services was conducted to attract additional construction companies with a more simplified process for cost proposal development for greater production.

To enhance LFHLA, the program partnered with Quest Diagnostics to provide no cost laboratory blood lead testing for residents who are enrolled in the program. Since the launch in February 2023, 192 lab orders and appointments have been placed. Additionally, DPH participated in several local community events to provide education, lead poisoning prevention resources, and blood lead testing.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The LFHLA recruitment strategy is designed around an annual program budget of roughly \$18 million with about 70 percent of funds going toward remediation services. At an average of \$24,000 per unit, the program is aiming to remediate an estimated 400 units per year. With the lead-based paint hazard remediation program well underway, this Action is considered complete. DPH will continue to advance this work and in this upcoming year, plans on improving program efficiencies and expediting the pace of the lead remediation process.

Action 11: Develop a public engagement, enforcement, and compliance plan for illegal dumping.

Lead Department: PW

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Illegal dumping is a growing problem throughout the County. This includes the North County, which has a relatively small proportion of illegal dumping but frequently has incidents involving greater tonnage of materials than elsewhere. A lack of funding for enforcement and competing priorities within County departments contribute to the challenge of addressing illegal dumping. Strong and consistent enforcement tools will help deter illegal dumping and reduce cleanup costs.

What progress has been made?

To combat illegal dumping, PW provides multiple ways for residents to report illegal dumping, including a hotline (888-253-2652), a dedicated email (dumping@pw.lacounty.gov), a smartphone app (The Works), and a website (CleanLA.com). Illegal dumping cases declined for the second year in a row from almost 22,000 cases in 2020 to just over 13,600 cases in 2022. This was a decrease of about 38 percent.

Additional programs underway to reduce illegal dumping across the County include:

- Requiring waste haulers to utilize the smartphone application - Trash Monitoring Program - to streamline and report illegal dumping.
- Educating residents in the seven Garbage Disposal Districts to set out unwanted bulky items only on pick up days to reduce the appearance of illegal dumping and working with waste haulers to sweep locations regularly throughout the week.
- Creating new solid waste collection services for communities in the northern portion of the County to provide a permanent and sustainable solid waste collection system for these unincorporated areas that includes illegal dumping removal.

- Preparing guidelines for the updated Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Ordinance that will include regular reports of where their C&D debris is taken for larger projects since this can be a source of illegally dumped material.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

PW will continue planning for the implementation of County oversight of solid waste collection in communities in the northern part of the County. This will require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and a contract solicitation process. PW expects the development process to take two years and for the new system to become operational in July 2025. PW will seek to expand education, including a planned media campaign with the Los Angeles Dodgers, to encourage residents to schedule bulky item pickup services and report illegal dumping.

On March 7, 2023, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion entitled, "Addressing Environmental Justice and Equity Concerns in Disadvantaged Communities Under Siege by Illegal Dumping." In May 2023, various departments provided Board Reports about recommended legislation as well as funding, staffing, and technology needed to address illegal dumping. The Countywide Illegal Dumping Working Group will meet bimonthly so County departments may share strategies.

The County believes that certain State codes that address illegal dumping need to be strengthened, such as California Penal Code 374. The County will explore possible legislation to make changes that will give counties better enforcement tools.

Action 14: Enact a permanent rent stabilization ordinance for eligible rental units in unincorporated areas.

Lead Department: LACDA, DCBA

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Access to stable and affordable housing is essential to the well-being of all people, particularly children whose health and academic performance have been shown to suffer when faced with insecure housing. Rental units in LA County are in short supply, causing rents to increase rapidly. Many low- and moderate-income tenants have been forced to move out due to these rent increases, placing a strain on families with few other options. While an Interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance was adopted in 2018, significant rent increases continue. A permanent rent stabilization ordinance would promote long-term stability and certainty for tenants most in need.

What progress has been made?

In 2019, the Rent Stabilization and Tenant Protections Ordinance (RSTPO) and the Mobilehome Rent Stabilization and Mobilehome Owner Protections Ordinance (MRSMOPO) were approved and contain critical protections from unjust rent hikes and arbitrary evictions for hundreds of thousands of tenants in the unincorporated County. In September 2022, the Board updated the Ordinances with additional protections, based on lessons learned from temporary protections put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ordinances were

amended to establish an affirmative defense to evictions for nonpayment of rent beyond a monetary threshold and require relocation assistance to tenants displaced due to unaffordable rent increases.

During the previous fiscal year (July 1, 2022 – May 2023), DCBA's Housing and Tenant Protections Division have aided over 40,000 callers, 1,192 in person appointments and provided case management services to over 6,837 constituents. In addition, in May 2023, DCBA hosted a Tenant Protections summit which served as a place to meet with incorporated cities to collaborate and share best practices on implementing and strengthening tenant protections within their jurisdictions.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

On July 11, 2023 the Board directed DCBA to further revise the RSTPO adding additional protections including: Require that any tenant in the unincorporated LA County when offered a voluntary buyout agreement be offered equal or greater than the relocation assistance amount a tenant would be entitled to under a no-fault eviction; clarify that tenants have an affirmative defense to an unlawful detainer action should a landlord fail to provide a copy of the notice of termination or eviction as required under the RSTPO and require that any at-fault termination of tenancy notice must provide specific facts concerning the eviction reason. DCBA has 90 days to return to the Board with the revised Ordinance.

Action 15: Adopt an inclusionary housing ordinance that promotes mixed income housing.

Lead Department: DRP
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

An inclusionary housing ordinance requires a share of new housing development to be affordable to low- or moderate-income households, helping to increase the number of affordable units across neighborhoods. Given LA County's significant housing crisis, adoption of an inclusionary housing ordinance would increase the number of affordable housing units throughout the unincorporated area and help address housing needs for those most impacted.

What progress has been made?

An Inclusionary Housing Ordinance was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on November 10, 2020. Since the adoption, DRP has provided multiple report backs to the Board in response to the Board motion and additional requests. DRP brought on a consultant to conduct an economic feasibility study to assess the continued viability of the affordable housing set asides in the six existing County submarkets - Antelope Valley, Coastal South LA, East LA/Gateway, San Gabriel Valley, Santa Clarita Valley, and South LA. The feasibility study was completed in June 2023 and found that although East LA/Gateway multifamily rental projects were not currently subject to the inclusionary requirement, affordable set-asides were now economically feasible for them. This was also found to be true for condominium projects in the Antelope Valley.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The goal of adopting an Inclusionary Housing Ordinance was completed. Based on the updated feasibility analysis, DRP is working on amendments to the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance.

Action 17: Advocate for drinking water affordability through equitable utility pricing, CalFresh/EBT water supplements, reducing obstacles to lifeline rates and water-efficient appliance subsidies.

Lead Department: CSO
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Indirect

About this Action

When water is unaffordable, low-income households may either consume less water than needed or face difficult tradeoffs to pay for water at the expense of paying for other needed goods and services. The goal of this action is to address affordability challenges by advocating for strategies that reduce the cost burden of this essential resource on low-income households. These strategies can include creating rate structures that provide lower rates for low-income households, increasing funds to social safety net programs such as CalFresh that cover water purchases, and expanding subsidy programs that support water conservation.

What progress has been made?

The CSO submitted recommendations to the County Office of Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations to include supporting proposals that would increase drinking water affordability such as through CalFresh/EBT water supplements in both the Federal and State Legislative Agenda.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The CSO remains committed to seeking additional ways to reduce obstacles to lifeline rates and water-efficient appliance subsidies.

Action 18: Complete an assessment of the region's drinking water systems to identify resiliency to drought and shocks, as well as risk of water quality issues due to aging infrastructure, deferred maintenance, etc.

Lead Department: CSO, LAFCO
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Indirect

About this Action

LA County is served by over 200 different water systems, ranging from large systems serving millions of residents to small systems serving less than one hundred people to individual wells with just a handful of connections. Some water systems, especially small water systems that lack resources such as a diversity of drinking water supplies, administrative and technical capacity, and financial security, are at risk of failure. Risks to these systems are compounded by the impacts of climate change, including drought and

extreme precipitation, as well as other risks such as aging infrastructure and deferred maintenance. This can leave communities that depend on these systems, which are disproportionately disadvantaged communities and rural communities, without secure access to a safe, clean, and reliable source of water for drinking, cooking, and sanitation.

What progress has been made?

In March 2023, the Board directed PW, in partnership with DPH, CSO, and other relevant partners to index and catalogue the small water systems within the unincorporated areas of the County. The Board also directed County departments to pursue other relevant issues, such as identifying potential systems at risk, exploring options to improve resiliency of those systems, including identifying potential funding to support those efforts, identifying opportunities for sustained remediation, and providing recommendations for technical and programmatic support to increase the resiliency and sustainability of small water systems subject to County oversight.

PW coordinated an initial response to the motion, including an analysis of small water systems that showed that of the 79 small water systems within unincorporated LA County, nine are failing, eight are at risk of failing, and 15 are potentially at risk of failing. The response identifies several intersections with the County Water Plan, including the need to initiate a small, at-risk system support program to promote small water system resiliency beyond near-term emergency needs. The report-back also identifies potential funding options to support resiliency for small water systems.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The needs assessment was completed. Going forward, PW, CSO, DPH, and other partners will coordinate additional responses to the recent motion, including identification of key strategies and next steps.

Action 19: Develop a program to map, monitor, address, and alert the public to drinking water quality issues that originate from on-site and systemic plumbing issues, incorporating reporting from water agencies as well as crowdsourcing.

Lead Department: CSO

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct & Indirect

About this Action

Safe drinking water is a basic human right, as codified by the State of California, but distrust in tap water by residents in LA County is greater than in most of the U.S. and in part driven by water quality issues that originate from the plumbing within people’s homes, referred to as premise plumbing, rather than from water treatment plants or water distribution systems. These issues, which originate on-site, can be more complicated to deal with from a regulatory standpoint because agencies that typically oversee water quality do not have clear authority over plumbing within individual residences, and would not be aware of these issues unless reported by the resident. To better address and meet the needs of residents, information on where drinking water quality issues are occurring within the County and their causes needs to be gathered so that policy solutions can be developed.

What progress has been made?

The CSO has contracted with UCLA's Luskin Center for Innovation to prepare a report on drinking water issues originating from premise plumbing in LA County. This report will focus on developing concrete policy recommendations that the County, local water agencies, and residents can pursue to address water quality challenges, particularly for LA County's most vulnerable communities.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The CSO will partner with UCLA and other stakeholders on the development of the water quality policy report.

Action 27: Increase resources such as drinking water fountains, filling stations, bathrooms, showers, kitchens, and laundry facilities in parks and public spaces that can be activated to support community resilience during emergencies.

Lead Department: DBH, DPR

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

This Action will improve safety, cleanliness, convenience, and accessibility of amenities such as restrooms, drinking water fountains, filling stations, showers, kitchens, and laundry facilities in parks and public spaces. The initiative is aligned with an equity-based framework to ensure that the people who most depend on parks, including low-income communities, have access to safe and clean restroom facilities, improving population health outcomes, contributing to community resilience, and creating safer, more welcoming places for people to engage in healthy activities.

What progress has been made?

Through the \$19 million Proposition 68 funds secured by DPR, a multi-year program called "Project Restroom," will add, replace, and renovate park restroom buildings throughout Los Angeles County parks, especially in areas that have been historically underserved and in communities of high need. Building age, condition, and demand were also assessed and used to determine projects to be funded through the initiative. DPR has entered the first phase of work on Project Restroom with the goal of implementing 54 restroom projects over the course of a few years. Of the 54 Project Restrooms in the first phase, seven have been completed, including the installation of 14 new drinking fountains, and the remaining 47 projects are in progress.

During FY 22-23, DBH continues to implement upgrades at its facilities. The department this year continued to work on completing the beach restroom facilities that were funded as part of the Federal Reinvestment Program. The beach restroom facilities that were completed this fiscal year include one restroom at White Point Beach and two restrooms at Zuma Beach.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

DPR will continue working on the Project Restroom projects that are currently underway. By year end, five additional restroom projects are expected to be completed. Phase II of the

Project Restroom projects includes 20 additional minor restroom renovations to address health and safety and/or facility beautification needs. Eight projects are seeking Board approval in July 2023. As the funding for the current slate of restroom projects was from a one-time funding source, the County plans to work to identify funding to provide resilience infrastructure, including such things as hydration stations, shade, and resiliency hubs at park sites.

In FY 23-24, DBH will be refurbishing the following facilities: Surfrider Beach restroom facility, Marina del Rey boat launch restroom facility, Anchorage 47 boater's restroom, and Zuma Beach restroom facilities. Funded projects to be completed in the future are the Burton Chace Park General improvements and Mother's Beach restroom refurbishment with an anticipated completion of early 2027.

Goal 2: Buildings and infrastructure that support human health and resilience

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: DPH
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. The 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, people who 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?

While DPH staff serving as lead for this action were released from COVID 19-response work during the last year, crucially, the completion of this action is still contingent on funding. In the last year, the DPH supported the County's application for a PrepareCA Jumpstart Grant, which was envisioned as funding for the development of a Heat Action Plan including key actions to address heat islands, but the application was not awarded funding.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

DPH, CSO, and other County partners will continue to seek funding to address health impacts from heat islands, including consideration of new federal funding coming into the County for climate-focused infrastructure improvements as appropriate.

As described in Action 7, DPH is currently undergoing a strategic planning process to develop a comprehensive scope of work for the Office of Environmental Justice and Climate Health, which will help advance the County's commitment to improving environmental conditions and related health outcomes. This is being done in response to the April 5, 2022 Board of Supervisors motion entitled "Evolving and Advancing the Board Directed Priority: Environmental Justice and Climate Health." This is being done through engagement with relevant countywide stakeholders and in collaboration with County departments, including PW, CSO, DRP, LACoFD, and other DPH programs. The process will include examining ways to better integrate DPH's work to mitigate climate health risks, including heat island reduction, into existing County planning and land use review functions.

Action 30: Build shade structures at major transit stops, such as those identified in Metro's Active Transportation Strategic Plan, prioritizing communities with high heat vulnerability.

Lead Department: PW, DPR

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct & Indirect

About this Action

Public transportation has many important benefits, including improved access for people who cannot travel by car or choose not to, and reduced emissions of climate and criteria pollutants compared to travel by car. However, extreme heat can make waiting at a transit stop unpleasant, unhealthy, or even dangerous; this presents an obstacle for public transit users that will only increase with the impacts of climate change. Building shade structures at transit stops, especially in locations with high heat vulnerability, can help protect public transportation users from the impacts of extreme heat and encourage more people to use transit options.

What progress has been made?

PW has prepared plans for a new contemporary style of bus shelter that will provide more protection against weather and increase comfort and safety. The first phase of 40 bus stop locations were chosen based on high ridership, lack of existing amenities, and the need to replace worn down bus shelters that have been in place for over 30 years. Funding has been secured, including via Senate Bill 1 and Omnibus Federal funding, and a Request for Proposals (RFP) is ready to be advertised.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

In the coming year, PW expects to finalize 100 percent of project specifications and estimates, advertise the project for bid, and award a bidder by Spring 2024 to fabricate and install the 40 new bus shelters at bus stops throughout unincorporated Los Angeles County. Substantial completion of construction is anticipated in Summer 2025.

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: PW

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. It generates approximately \$280 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 directly receive 40 percent of the funding, while 50 percent of the funding is part of a Regional Program to finance regional watershed scale projects and 10 percent 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 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, administers the \$11 million and constructs 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 County Board of Supervisors approved the FY 2022-23 Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) under the Safe, Clean Water Program, including funding for 101 new and continuing Infrastructure Program Projects that provide water quality, water supply, and community investment benefits in addition to nature-based stormwater management solutions, spanning 47 cities and benefiting the watersheds of the entire region. The nine SIPs will invest approximately \$670 million in Regional Program Funds and \$530 million towards projects benefiting disadvantaged communities through FY 2026-27. Out of the 101 new and continuing Infrastructure Program Projects, eight projects have already been completed as of the close of FY 2022-23. These completed projects successfully capture an estimated 900 acre-feet of water annually.

Watershed Coordinators are now in place to bridge community engagement and subject matter expertise, as well as to help the committee make funding recommendations that are best for their respective communities. While Safe, Clean Water Program scoring criteria

helps verify projects are truly multi-benefit, additional resources continue to be developed as well, including Interim Guidance documents related to current topics of concern.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

There are many new projects being developed for the Safe, Clean Water Program. Two examples of regional multi-benefit stormwater projects that are under construction include the County's Adventure Park Stormwater Capture Project and the City of San Fernando's Regional Park Infiltration Project, which are designed to capture 193 and 400 acre-feet per year, respectively, once in operation.

Additionally, adaptive management of the program will continue, and will include elements stemming from the in-progress Metrics and Monitoring Study effort as well as the in-progress Biennial Progress Report.

Action 35: Develop a local water supply plan.

Lead Department: PW

Horizon: Short to Long 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. PW is actively engaged in developing the Los Angeles County Water Plan (County Water Plan). The County Water Plan will build on existing planning efforts to articulate a shared vision for enhanced water resources management across the region. The County Water Plan will be developed with the goal of establishing a resilient regional water supply plan while providing social, environmental, and economic benefits to present and future generations.

What progress has been made?

The development of the County Water Plan has continued through ongoing collaboration with regional water stakeholders and agency experts. County Water Plan development workgroups consist of representatives from key water agencies such as PW, Metropolitan Water District, Water Replenishment District, LA County Sanitation Districts, Department of Water and Power, Las Virgenes Metropolitan Water District, and more.

The Greater LA County, Antelope Valley, and Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) meetings have been one of the primary vehicles for engaging stakeholders in the development of the County Water Plan. Additional engagement with environmental and environmental justice organizations, as well as with interested local tribes and other County departments, was completed throughout the first half of 2023. Draft County Water Plan targets, strategies, and actions have been developed with consideration of all input received to date. Proposed strategies and actions address topics including water supply reliability; drought resilience; groundwater production, recharge, and storage; drinking water equity and affordability; small, at-risk water system support; and resilience of water infrastructure to wildfire impacts. The Draft County Water Plan was released for public comments in July 2023 with a 60-day comment period.

The County Water Plan website (<https://lacountywaterplan.org/>) is updated periodically to inform the public on planned meetings and the current status of plan development.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

PW anticipates incorporating public comments, revising the document, and producing the proposed Final County Water Plan in late 2023 with adoption by the Board of Supervisors anticipated in early 2024.

Action 42: Develop a plan to ensure effective, well-maintained flood risk mitigation infrastructure to communities and include a mechanism to facilitate reporting of incidents by residents/municipalities to help identify and address any chronic local flooding issues.

Lead Department: PW

Horizon: Medium Term

Sphere of influence: Direct & Indirect

About this Action

This action is implemented through the Drainage Needs Assessment Program (DNAP). The goal of DNAP is to ensure effective, well-maintained flood risk mitigation infrastructure to communities. It includes a mechanism to facilitate reporting of incidents by residents and municipalities to help identify and address any chronic local flooding issues.

DNAP creates a central location to collect drainage needs from the 88 cities and unincorporated Los Angeles County residents, ranks submittals in the database using established criteria, including severity and consequences of flooding, cost and feasibility of corrective measures, socio-economic factors, collaborative and outside funding contributions, and opportunities for multi-benefit solutions. Top ranking submittals are recommended for project concept to further evaluate feasibility for design and construction.

What progress has been made?

Notices and meetings were set up with the 88 cities in Los Angeles County and any complaints from unincorporated LA County were entered into the Drainage Needs Assessment Program. All drainage issues in the database are evaluated using established criteria and prioritized for project concept development.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Drainage issues submitted by the annual deadline of April 30th will be evaluated and prioritized that year for potential project concept development and design. With DNAP being fully operationalized, this Action is considered complete.

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: CSO

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

A County Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) will establish a path to increasing the extent and resilience of tree canopy in the County, which will create more resilient and healthy community environments and promote 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 to address, these inequities.

What progress has been made?

Over the past year, the CSO continued development of the UFMP, funded and supported by a \$1.5 million Urban and Community Forestry Grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE). This included completing a desktop assessment, working to update the Countywide canopy cover data layer, and completing and consolidating the County-managed tree inventory. The CSO also contracted a stakeholder engagement consultant and kicked off the UFMP stakeholder engagement process, which is being planned and executed jointly between the County and City of LA. As the first part of this stakeholder engagement effort, the County and City completed a series of 6 topic-specific “community expert” workshops and began planning for neighborhood-level engagement, including creating a community-based organization partnership and implementation plan. In the fall of 2022, PW completed its early-action tree planting project in Florence-Firestone, a key component of the CALFIRE grant. PW will perform continued watering and maintenance of those early action trees at no cost to residents.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Over the next year, the CSO will continue to work towards the creation of the UFMP. This will involve implementing the joint County and City stakeholder engagement plan, which includes contracting with local community-based organizations to perform engagement and outreach at 50 neighborhood-level workshop events, with 25 located in unincorporated communities and 25 located in the City of LA, as well as the development and deployment of a community survey. The stakeholder engagement process will conclude with a series of “open houses” hosted across the County and City to share key findings and solicit feedback. Input from all of the stakeholder engagement activities and events will feed into the draft and final UFMP documents and website, which are targeted to be completed in the spring of 2024.

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: DRP
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). A key component 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. The TOD Program aims to promote streets that facilitate safe, accessible connections between major destinations for multiple modes of transportation. Additionally, it encourages parking management strategies to more efficiently use parking resources and supports programs that reduce parking demand.

What progress has been made?

The Florence-Firestone TOD Specific Plan was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on February 7, 2023. One of the implementation actions stemming from the adoption of the Specific Plan was to conduct a comprehensive parking study for the Florence-Firestone community. DRP was able to fund this study through a grant, and this study was completed in April 2023. Another implementation action of the Specific Plan was to conduct a Historic Resources Survey with community outreach to allow community members the opportunity to provide input on local historic and cultural resources valuable to the community. This survey was also completed during the first quarter of 2023.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Additional TOD Specific Plans will be prioritized based on funding availability.

Action 52: Promote walkability through various tools, including zoning that enables a mix of uses, and pedestrian enhancements.

Lead Department: DRP
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.

What progress has been made?

The Florence-Firestone TOD Specific Plan was adopted in February 2023, and it includes expanded development standards that require private development to help provide

additional easement and widen sidewalks in the community. The Specific Plan also includes policy and recommended implementation actions for pedestrian improvements such as a pedestrian bridge and pathways around transit stations.

DPH continued work on a second round of Community Pedestrian Plans for four unincorporated areas: East Los Angeles, East Rancho Dominguez, Florence-Firestone, and Willowbrook/West Rancho Dominguez-Victoria. This work included releasing the draft plans in October 2022 and conducting the second phase of community engagement seeking public review and comment on the draft plans. DRP serves on the Technical Advisory Committee for the Pedestrian Plans and has collaborated on in-person outreach meetings with the public.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

In the next year, DPH will be completing the Pedestrian Plans. These plans will also be presented to the Regional Planning Commission in a public hearing as they will become a part of the County's General Plan. DPH anticipates a Regional Planning Commission public hearing in the summer of 2023 and final adoption of the Pedestrian Plans by the Board of Supervisors by spring of 2024.

Action 53: Develop equitable design guidelines that promote high quality living environments for all.

Lead Department: DRP
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Equitable design standards are intended to improve the design of residential projects, to ensure residential projects are designed in a manner that integrates them into existing neighborhood contexts, and to ensure that residential projects are designed to foster walkable, livable, and healthy neighborhoods that enhance the comfort of residents and the experience of the public. The Residential Design Standards Project is built around design best practices including but not limited to site planning, building orientation, building façade and roofline articulation, compatibility with existing development, energy efficiency, and connectivity.

What progress has been made?

The Residential Design Standards Project is intended to provide clear design requirements to improve the quality of residential development, including mixed-use projects with a residential component, throughout the unincorporated County while streamlining the development and approval process for developers and property owners. The Project includes amendments to Title 22 consisting of quantifiable, objective standards as required by Senate Bill 330 (2019, Skinner); a user guide for use by the public, including guiding principles, illustrations, and examples of the standards in practice; and implementation tools.

In April 2022, following development of an initial draft of the Ordinance, a roundtable of design professionals was convened to solicit input from end users. Between November 2022 and March 2023, multiple public meetings for community members were held along with

open office hours for all interested parties to provide input. In April 2023, a public hearing was held for the Residential Design Standards Ordinance before the Regional Planning Commission, and the Commission subsequently recommended adoption of the Ordinance to the Board of Supervisors.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The Ordinance was approved by the Board of Supervisors in July 2023 and will become effective once it is adopted.

Action 54: Implement tenant protection measures (e.g., Right to Counsel, rent escrow) to avoid displacement impacts from housing repairs and improvements, including those that are made to meet sustainable design guidelines, correct code violations, or address habitability issues.

Lead Department: DCBA
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Los Angeles County has some of the highest percentages of rent burdened tenants in the nation. With the lifting of certain moratoria, these tenants now owe considerable sums in back rent, and face eviction filings. Low-income tenants, many of whom are disproportionately people of color, nearly always lack legal representation through the eviction process. It is critical to ensure that tenants are educated and informed of their existing rights and responsibilities and connected to financial assistance and critical resources to help them avoid evictions.

What progress has been made?

Stay Housed L.A. (SHLA) is a partnership between DCBA, local non-profit community organizations, and non-profit legal aid organizations to provide tenants at risk of eviction and homelessness within the County with the support they need to remain safely in their homes. Since the inception of the program in July 2020 through April 30, 2023, SHLA has provided limited legal services and assessments to 8,944 tenant households; provided full-scope legal representation to 2,788 tenant households; provided short-term rental assistance to 226 tenant households totaling \$2,039,262; and conducted 1,048 virtual “Know Your Rights” workshops, webinars, and clinics.

On May 13, 2022, the County entered into new service delivery agreements with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA), funded via \$10.8 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) dollars and \$6.2 million in California Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) dollars, to continue providing eviction defense services under the SHLA program through June of 2023. On September 13, 2022, the Board approved an additional \$18 million allocation from ARP for the continued implementation of the program through June of 2024. On January 24, 2023, the Board approved a \$2 million supplemental allocation of ARP funding to expand SHLA’s rental assistance efforts to coincide with the expiration of the County’s COVID-19 Tenant Protections Resolution. On July 11, 2023, the Board allocated \$5 million from the Affordable Housing Trust fund to supplement the current SHLA budget.

On April 8, 2023, in response to a Board Motion, DCBA submitted a report back on recommendations to sustainably expand current eviction defense services. The report back included the primary recommendation of adoption of a Right to Counsel (RTC) Ordinance for the unincorporated areas of the County by FY 2024-2025 to guarantee legal representation to eligible tenants when facing eviction. DCBA's second recommendation was to use a phased-in approach for the SHLA program to achieve universal access to legal representation for all non-City of Los Angeles tenants across the County by FY 2030-2031. On July 11, 2023, both recommendations were approved by the Board of Supervisors.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

As directed in the July 11, 2023 Board Motion, DCBA will return to the Board of Supervisors in 10 months with a RTC Ordinance for eligible tenants in unincorporated LA and to update an implementation plan to expand coverage of legal representation services and wraparound services to additional non-City of LA incorporated cities. The Board also directed DEO and DCBA to provide a written report back on resources and programs available to mom-and-pop rental property owners. In addition, DCBA will work with the CEO to identify a sustainable funding source to implement the RTC Ordinance and Universal Access program.

Additionally, DCBA and other County departments are working to establish a rental housing habitability and rent escrow account program. This program will consolidate the current patchwork enforcement processes in place and assist tenants with the challenges faced when living in substandard living conditions.

SHLA has experienced overwhelming demand for legal representation impacting the programs capacity to provide legal services. The capacity issue being experienced by the program stems from a shortage of legal aid attorneys that are available to provide legal representation services through the program. LAFLA is working on creating a recruitment pipeline to offer stipends to law school students and contingent job offers once they pass the Uniform Bar Examination. In addition, LAFLA is currently evaluating the feasibility of working with private attorneys from non-profit incubators to further increase capacity to provide legal representation to tenants.

Goal 4: A prosperous LA County that provides opportunities for all residents and businesses and supports the transition to a green economy

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: CSO

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 existing or create new economic hardship.

What progress has been made?

In December 2022, the LA County-City Just Transition Task Force (JTTF) released a Just Transition Strategy for Los Angeles City and County, which outlined three key goals: 1) provide workers impacted by the phaseout of oil extraction with the necessary support to transition into jobs of comparable, family-sustaining compensation or retirement; 2) properly remediate closed oil well sites and integrate input from frontline communities and sovereign Native Nations in community visioning, remediation, and land use redevelopment planning processes; and 3) leverage public and private funds to equitable and sustainably finance and coordinate the successful implementation of the Just Transition Strategy. In early 2023, the JTTF Planning Team held several briefings with state and federal officials on the strategy to support identification of potential funding sources and began meeting with City and County agencies to identify implementation leads and next steps. In May 2023, the JTTF re-convened to kick off the implementation planning phase of the work, with the Task Force members now serving as advisors to City and County implementation leads.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

The JTTF's implementation priorities for 2023 include planning for the establishment of a Workers Advisory Council, in which the County's Department of Economic Opportunity will have a lead role, and incorporation of community and tribal priorities for site redevelopment and reuse into community and area plan updates, in which DRP will have a lead role.

Action 60: Partner with community-based organizations, educational institutions, and the private sector to connect and place graduates and workers with meaningful on-the-job training and employment opportunities within growth sectors of the economy.

Lead Department: Department of Economic Opportunity (formerly WDACS)

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct & Indirect

About this Action

The County is a manufacturing center of the U.S. and a clean technology leader with a diverse and skilled workforce. Partnering with community-based organizations, educational institutions, and the private sector to connect recent graduates and current workers with training and employment opportunities will support the growth of local green economy sectors and help ensure that our economy is one that works for everyone.

What progress has been made?

DEO has partnered with community-based organizations, educational institutions, and the private sector to help LA County residents find meaningful employment in the high growth sectors of the economy. In FY 2022-2023, DEO America's Job Centers of California

(AJCCs) connected 279 individuals to job placements and on-the-job training opportunities in the various growth sectors in LA County.

Working with several of the region's community colleges, various High Road Training Partnerships (HRTPs) have been implemented to train and employ individuals within Green Sector Transportation, Green Sector Infrastructure, Green Sector Manufacturing, Health Care, Government/Real Estate, and Social Services Industry jobs. Two new H RTP programs were launched in Construction and Film & Digital Media. Individuals are recruited through DEO's AJCCs, with a special focus and emphasis on priority populations such as Black and Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC), women, veterans, people experiencing homelessness, System Impacted Individuals, and foster youth. Examples of partnerships include Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Workforce Pilot project with ISD that will train 60 individuals for installation and maintenance of electrical vehicle charging stations and completion of two cohorts for solar panel installations at the Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF) with GRID Alternatives.

Additionally, DEO recently held a successful Green Economy Employer Convening to engage and assist 66 Green sector businesses in diversifying the Green Workforce.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Leveraging funding from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and American Rescue Plan Act, DEO will continue to work with its educational partners to further establish HRTPs in Trade & Logistics, Technology, Healthcare/Bioscience, Green Economy, and Early Childhood Education to connect individuals from identified priority populations to training and employment opportunities within the growth sectors and key sectors vital to the economy's recovery.

Action 63: Engage in partnerships, such as the Transportation Electrification Partnership, to promote the development of local advanced transportation manufacturing and maintenance.

Lead Department: CSO
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Supporting the development of local, good-paying jobs throughout the electric vehicle value chain will provide career opportunities for residents in the green economy. Partnerships between the public and private sector are critical to advancing this effort. The Transportation Electrification Partnership (TEP) brings together local, regional, and state stakeholders to accelerate progress towards transportation electrification and zero emissions goods movement while equitably growing the regional economy in the Greater LA region.

What progress has been made?

The CSO is an active member in partnerships, such as the TEP, where it provides policy support and guidance to the private sector, public sector, and community-based organizations to help guide both the adoption of zero-emission vehicles and technologies and the advancement of the green economy.

Over this past year, TEP played a key role in the EVs for All Act, H.R. 6662, that authorized up to \$50 million in annual appropriations from 2022-2031 for a new grant program with the Department of Energy in coordination with the Housing and Urban Development and Department of Transportation. H.R. 6662 provides residents of 50 public housing projects nationwide with access to zero emission cars and charging infrastructure. Locally, the partnership is with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles.

LACI also provides workforce development programs to provide technical skills necessary to succeed in the green economy. To that end, LACI recently launched the EV Service Equipment Training Fellowship, a free training program for 18-to-24-year-olds aimed at helping young adults get trained for clean jobs. In addition, through TEP, four zero emissions pilot projects have been launched in the City of LA and County supporting emissions-free mobility and workforce development in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

As a member of the TEP Leadership Group, the CSO plays a role in helping to identify a clear pathway towards achieving zero-emissions mobility and goods movement for the entire region. The LA Cleantech Incubator and TEP have held stakeholder meetings and outreach efforts to assess existing gaps in meeting the goal of a 25 percent reduction in greenhouse gases by 2028 through transportation electrification, and soon, a Zero Emissions 2028 Roadmap 3.0 will be released.

Action 64: Institute community benefits programs and project labor agreements, consistent with Board direction, for all County-managed public infrastructure and ecosystem restoration investments, including local hire programs.

Lead Department: CEO, DEO

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Community benefits programs and project labor agreements, also known as community workforce agreements, are pre-hire collective bargaining agreements negotiated between a private or public entity and signatory construction unions that set the terms of employment on construction projects. Community workforce agreements can include provisions that provide benefits to the communities through workforce considerations, specific community needs, and other conditions and expectations.

What progress has been made?

Negotiations to establish a Countywide Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) between the County and the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council continued through the first half of FY 2022-23. On January 10, 2023, a tentative agreement was reached, and CEO delivered the final draft Countywide CWA to the Board for their review and consideration. The first CWA was executed on June 7, 2023. Through the end of FY 2022-23, the Countywide CWA was included in 8 construction contract solicitations.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

PW estimates that there are approximately 30 non-federally funded and eight federally funded projects that are expected to begin construction during FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 and could meet the criteria to be covered under the CWA. Including the eight projects that were added to the CWA last fiscal year, there could be nearly 50 projects assigned to the Countywide CWA over the next two fiscal years.

The County plans to continue developing and implementing a scalable framework to successfully administer the Countywide CWA. There will be a focus on aligning outcomes from the CWA with the Board's priorities to promote equity and access to opportunities for all LA County communities. The inclusion of the Local and Targeted Worker Hiring Policy in the CWA should also boost the success of the Policy and its hiring requirements. Additionally, the County plans to maximize the CWA's Work and Economic Opportunity provisions to increase work opportunities for local small businesses, encourage hiring individuals seeking to start a new career in the construction industry, and promote hiring underrepresented individuals to work on County construction projects.

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: DRP

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 types that are 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 (CLT), 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?

The County's Pilot CLT Partnership program is an implementation program of the 2021-2029 Housing Element, which was approved and certified in May 2022. It will pilot the acquisition of housing by CLTs and nonprofit organizations to create long-term affordable housing. As part of the Pilot, eight projects with 43 total units were acquired in the previous two years and are currently undergoing substantial rehabilitation. The second phase of the program, the Chapter 8 Pilot Program, began with the identification of five residential properties, amounting to six units, which have been approved for tax sale by the State Controller's Office. LACDA met with three identified non-profit organizations and CLTs to discuss program design prior to issuing Notices of Sale to all property owners.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

Program updates will be submitted annually to the California Department of Housing and Community Development as part of the Housing Element Annual Progress Report. In the future, the Pilot will be evaluated with consideration given to establishing a permanent program and funding source. A particular focus will be put on developing CLTs in racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAP).

Goal 5: Thriving ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity

Action 70: 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.

Lead Department: CSO, DPR
Horizon: Medium Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

This action is essential for protecting and enhancing the biodiversity of the County's urban ecosystems in the face of a changing climate. Through this action, 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?

On December 6, 2022, the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the 2022 Parks Needs Assessment Plus (PNA+) Final Report as the County's 30x30 plan. 30x30 refers to the goal of conserving 30 percent of lands and coastal waters by the year 2030 to address climate change and protect biodiversity. As the County moves towards implementation of the PNA+, DPR is looking to develop metrics for both conservation and restoration of degraded lands, inclusive of biodiversity metrics. The development of metrics helps increase coordination among County personnel and affiliates by providing measurable goals and ensuring a consistent and effective approach towards conservation and restoration efforts.

DPR plans to provide specific native landscape maintenance training for staff and continues to offer public programming on urban ecosystems. DPR aims to enroll all grounds maintenance staff, consisting of approximately 380 participants, in the California Native Plant Landscaper Certification program provided by the Theodore Payne Foundation or an equivalent training program. DPR staff will also receive instruction on the best practices for native and drought-tolerant landscapes, enabling them to enhance their knowledge and skill sets and apply that to County parks.

DPR continues to offer the popular "Every Body Explores" program for 2,600 park visitors, providing youth, families, and adults the opportunity to borrow a free backpack full of exploration tools while visiting any of the seven Nature Centers. A new "Nature Knowledge Nights" program was offered bringing in 1,100 people for free evening gatherings like story times, guided walks, and animal presentations.

DPR continued their participation in the City Nature Challenge, which is an annual community science event that introduces people to making observations about the environment around them and records them using iNaturalist. Participation was promoted at seven Nature Centers and contributed to the 22,400 observations and 2,480 species recorded in Los Angeles County during the challenge days. In addition, DPR continues to work with the Baldwin Hills and Urban Watershed Conservancy, North East Trees, the Los Angeles Audubon Society, California State Parks, and the community on a 10.5-acre ecological restoration of coastal sage scrub, toyon, elderberry, and walnut woodland at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

DBH has also actively sought out opportunities to support native and drought-tolerant trees and landscaping on County property. This includes developing training materials on management practices for sensitive species and environmental management, and a partnership with The Bay Foundation to complete four living shoreline projects (approximately 10 acres) creating natural habitats for plants and wildlife. Furthermore, DBH is planning renovation projects at Burton Chace Park and Aubrey Austin Park where drought tolerant, native landscaping will be used.

What is planned for next year and beyond?

This upcoming year, DPR will work to develop metrics for both conservation and restoration of degraded lands, inclusive of biodiversity indicators. For programming, DPR's Nature Centers will continue to offer "Every Body Explores" and participate in the City Nature Challenge.

DPR is planning to commence the California Native Plant Landscaper Certification program for grounds staff in the fall of 2023, and the program is anticipated to run for 24 months. The goal is to have around 15 staff cohorts complete the training by June 2025.

Goal 6: Accessible parks, beaches, recreational waters, public lands, and public spaces that create opportunities for respite, recreation, ecological discovery, and cultural activities

Action 74: Work with cities and across agencies to plan, implement, and maintain parks, greenways, plazas (and other public spaces), vacant lot adoptions, and joint-use green schoolyards in those neighborhoods with high park need and/or missing habitat linkages.

Lead Department: DPR
Horizon: Ongoing
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

In places without many available natural and open spaces, the County needs to consider creative solutions to identify opportunities for new green spaces. This is especially critical in neighborhoods with high park need and areas with missing habitat linkages. New green spaces in these high need areas will provide community recreation and social cohesion,

habitat connectivity and biodiversity, and climate resilient services such as cooling and stormwater management.

What progress has been made?

As noted in Action 70, the 2022 Parks Needs Assessment Plus (PNA+) Final Report is serving as the County's 30x30 plan to address climate change and protect biodiversity. The report also focuses on regional recreation and rural recreation. DPR has secured funding from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, Baldwin Hills and Urban Watersheds Conservancy, and the Wildlife Conservation Board for an Implementation Plan Project for the PNA+ to develop an actionable Plan and Toolkit for regional conservation and restoration of degraded lands, focusing on the PNA+ Final Report's identified priority areas across Los Angeles County. This work will be done in collaboration with these three state conservancies and a broad range of community-based organizations.

DPR continues to convene a Countywide Trail Managers Task Force as a forum to coordinate and collaborate with federal, state, and local trail managing partners to address issues including habitat and public space linkages.

A key opportunity for cities and unincorporated portions of Los Angeles County that are high and very high in park-need is Measure A funding through the Technical Assistance Program (TAP). This program assists agencies and organizations in developing eligible park projects and competitive applications for its grant programs and helping communities create multi-benefit park projects and programs throughout Los Angeles County. Over \$9 million was awarded in 2022 under the TAP to 30 cities and the unincorporated portion of Los Angeles County that are in high and very high park- need areas. DPR was awarded a TAP grant for community engagement for the 92nd Street Linear Park project.

To serve communities with limited access to parks and recreation facilities, the "Parks on the Move" program brings free mobile recreation services in the form of a park on wheels to those communities. In partnership with Play Equity and Playworks, Parks on the Move hosted ten special events over the past year, including a mobile skatepark (with equipment provided), sports, arts and crafts, and games led by trained and caring staff.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

Over the next year, DPR plans to focus on implementing the PNA+ recommendations. This includes identifying opportunities for land conservation and restoration, developing a land acquisition and park development toolbox, coordinating with community-based organizations, conservancies, and other agencies on parkland acquisition and strategies, and carrying out public policy and communications-related work to expand the definition of conservation to include the restoration of degraded lands.

Action 75: Implement Community Parks and Recreation Plans, and park projects identified in the LA Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment, with priority given to those in Very High/High Need Study Areas.

Lead Department: DPR

Horizon: Medium Term

Sphere of influence: Direct & Indirect

About this Action

The LA Countywide Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment (PNA), completed in 2016, is a comprehensive study of the diverse parks and recreation facilities throughout the County's cities and unincorporated communities. The PNA gathered data to determine the scope, scale, and location of park need in the County, and is invaluable in informing planning and decision-making. In 2022 the Parks Needs Assessment Plus (PNA+) was adopted, which serves as the County's 30x30 plan. Guided by the findings of the PNA and the PNA+, DPR works to identify, fund, and implement park projects in the highest need areas of the County as well as environmental conservation and restoration, regional recreation, and rural recreation projects.

What progress has been made?

DPR actively sought grants and funding opportunities to support high need communities and to achieve the priorities established in the PNA and PNA+. DPR secured \$10 million in State Specified General Funds for the Puente Hills Nature Education Center. In addition, DPR successfully secured over \$31 million in competitive grant awards from the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program, funded by State Proposition 68, for the below programs. The status of these park development projects in high park need areas are also described below:

- Greater Whittier Regional Aquatic Center: Opened in October 2022 in the Former parking lot at Pioneer High School, the Center features an Olympic-size swimming pool, practice pool, concrete bleachers for 500 spectators, and a new building with changing rooms, showers, restrooms, and classrooms. This new aquatic center also features a large-scale mosaic by Rebeca Mendez titled "Underwater Sunlight." A new public park space with workout equipment and a playground is also part of this project.
- 92nd Street Linear Park Development Project: The 4.19-acre park is currently in plan check and will feature jogging/walking paths, three half basketball courts, a multi-purpose sports field, two playground areas, shade structures, exercise equipment, an outdoor performance stage, public art, fencing/gates, and park-wide landscaping and lighting. The park will be developed within the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's utility corridor.
- Nogales Park Development Project: The 0.5-acre park is well underway, and the project is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Construction has begun on the park restroom/office building, which will be followed by all the park amenities. Plans include two new playgrounds with shade, exercise equipment, splash pad, walking path, outdoor performance stage, public art, picnic, and BBQ area, landscaping, lighting, and a restroom/security building. This multi-benefit project also includes stormwater capture, in collaboration with PW.
- 95th & Normandie Pocket Park Development Project: The 0.16-acre pocket park for West Athens-Westmont, has cleared jurisdictional reviews, a contractor has been selected, and mobilization and construction are expected to be completed by October 2023. The park will include a new play area with shade, therapeutic garden, space for rotating recreational activities, storage shed, and landscaping.
- Salazar Park Parkwide Modernization Project: This parkwide improvement project in incorporated East Los Angeles is currently in the design and development phase,

which is expected to be complete by end of 2023. The first phase is anticipated to start in May 2024.

- San Gabriel Valley Aquatic Center: A new aquatic center will be developed in unincorporated West Puente Valley. This project mobilized for construction in June 2023. Construction is expected to be complete by the end of 2024 with a grand opening of the facility in early 2025.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

DPR will continue to implement park projects for which state funding was secured and expects to complete two of the above projects by the end of 2023. In addition, DPR will continue to seek funding for unfunded park projects, such as those proposed in the Antelope Valley for which DPR previously sought Prop. 68 funding for. Lastly, DPR will pursue a variety of funding opportunities to implement the PNA+.

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: CSO

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Native 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 the relationship of local tribes to the County as sovereign nations, necessitates diverse solutions. This action ensures that the County addresses inequities unique to tribal communities, especially where inequities create barriers to observation of tribal cultural practices.

What progress has been made?

Arts and Culture in partnership with the LANAIC, supported by consultant Cogstone Resource Management, continued to lead the County's efforts to develop a Countywide Land Acknowledgment as part of the Board of Supervisors' early implementation of the Countywide Cultural Policy. On November 1, 2022, after many months of collaboration with leaders from local Tribes, the Board unanimously adopted the first Countywide Land Acknowledgment. The Board has included a reading of the Land Acknowledgment at the beginning of all regular meetings of their body, and approved funding for Arts and Culture to develop a toolkit and training resources to support County departments in their implementation of the Land Acknowledgment.

Alongside the development of the Land Acknowledgment, Arts and Culture, the LANAIC, and consultant Cogstone Resource Management, gathered input about how the County has harmed local tribal nations. A report entitled *We Are Still Here," A Report on Past, Present, and Ongoing Harms Against Local Tribes* was developed and published to provide County agencies and the public at large with an accounting of the history of the First Peoples of the region, as well as the thoughts, wishes, needs, and recommendations of members of five participating Tribes. The report, which includes compelling portraits of tribal members, won

the Hermes Creative 2023 Gold Award for design and has been distributed to public facing County Parks and Libraries.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

Arts and Culture and the LANAIC, with consultant Cogstone Resource Management, will continue its work with tribal representatives to develop a toolkit and training resources to support County departments and agencies in implementing the Land Acknowledgment. This work will result in educational resources, standards and protocols, pronunciation guides, first-person narratives, and additional guidance about incorporating Land Acknowledgment in the built environment, including projects along the Los Angeles River and other commissioned civic artworks. Until a County Tribal Relations Office is formed, Arts and Culture and the LANAIC have convened an informal peer learning group of staff from various County departments to share promising practices on engaging with local Tribes and address recommendations in the Harms Report.

Action 82: Integrate artists, cultural organizations, community members, and local tribes in planning processes and project development for parks, public lands, and public spaces to support equitable development and access to arts and culture.

Lead Department: Arts and Culture

Horizon: Ongoing

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Parks and public spaces should be designed and developed with feedback from the communities most closely connected to them so that they are welcome to everyone. It's important for these spaces to reflect the neighborhoods they reside in, including the rich history of the tribal land, and increase access to arts and culture. In 2020, a Countywide Cultural Policy was adopted by the Board of Supervisors to provide direction for how LA County and its departments can ensure that every resident has meaningful access to arts and culture, including through its public spaces.

What progress has been made?

At the direction of the Board of Supervisors, the Department of Arts and Culture has taken first steps towards implementation of the Cultural Policy specifically focused on identifying ways to acknowledge and build relationships with local tribal governments and setting a foundation for increased access to County planning and project development opportunities. In 2022, the Board of Supervisors also adopted the Cultural Policy Strategic Plan prepared by Arts and Culture which includes 18 strategies that, if funded, would sustain and expand the County's investment in cultural infrastructure and equitable access to the arts.

Arts and Culture partnered with the LA City/County Native American Indian Commission (LANAIC) to complete major initiatives as the first of many steps toward building and sustaining relationships with local tribal governments and developing a process for integrating tribal consultation in County planning and projects. In October 2022, the LANAIC was transferred to Arts and Culture as its new administrative home, an arrangement which has provided a rich opportunity for partnership and collaboration.

Additionally, artist Jacob Pratt (Dakota and Ojibway from Cote First Nation) completed a Creative Strategist residency with the LANAIC. The LA County Creative Strategist program places artists in County departments to collaborate with staff and community stakeholders to develop and implement artist-driven solutions to complex social challenges. The residency was focused on increasing awareness and understanding of local Tribes and the American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) community, especially their histories and cultural practices; celebrating the diversity of the AIAN community and their stories; and developing strategies and recommendations that contribute to building and sustaining trust between the County and its AIAN community. Jacob devised and directed a short film, *Erasure*, that explores what it is to be Native in Los Angeles from three perspectives.

Arts and Culture is also in the process of implementing the first LA River Master Plan civic art project at the Headwaters in Canoga Park. This first civic art project is designed to prioritize the First Peoples of LA County and the natural environment of the river. Arts and Culture is actively collaborating with PW to structure a Measure A grant application for this project funding and anticipates releasing an artist call in summer 2023.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

Arts and Culture will continue to find opportunities to collaborate and coordinate with other County departments to support integration of artists and arts organizations in County planning processes and projects. As one example, Arts and Culture staff have been included in planning work groups convened by DRP to develop the South Bay and Westside Area Plans, community-based plans that guide regional growth and development.

Goal 7: A fossil fuel-free LA 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 towards building decarbonization.

Lead Department: PW, CSO

Horizon: Medium Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Building decarbonization requires the elimination of fossil fuels in building systems and appliances – such as by switching from gas-powered heating and cooling systems to electric-powered systems and switching from gas stoves to induction stoves. Decarbonizing the County's building stock is a critical step in reducing emissions that contribute to climate change as described in the Draft Climate Action Plan. Further, household gas appliances, such as ovens and heaters, produce indoor air pollution that can contribute to negative health outcomes such as asthma. Using alternatives that do not produce indoor air pollution, such as electric appliances, can improve indoor air quality and protect occupant health.

What progress has been made?

PW is currently working with the CSO to respond to a March 15, 2022 Board motion, "Ensuring the Equitable Decarbonization of Buildings." The motion calls for PW and CSO to work together to develop an ordinance for decarbonization of new buildings in the

unincorporated County, including a stakeholder engagement process to inform development of the ordinance. As a result, the CSO has secured a consultant to assist with stakeholder engagement planning and implementation. Recently, the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals struck down the City of Berkeley's new building decarbonization ordinance, which has implications for the County's regulatory pathway to decarbonization of new buildings. CSO, PW, and other relevant partners are working together to identify the County's path forward to meet the intent of the Board motion and achieve the County's climate goals related to carbon emissions from new and existing buildings.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

The City of Berkeley has appealed the Ninth Circuit Court ruling, and further action on a County ordinance requiring decarbonization of new buildings is pending based on the outcome of that appeal. As the appeal moves forward, CSO and PW will continue to explore additional strategies that the County can implement to reduce or eliminate carbon emissions associated with new and existing buildings regardless of the outcome of the decision. In addition, DRP has committed to offering a streamlined review under CEQA for projects that offer to be all-electric developments as part of their Climate Action Plan.

Action 88: Maximize the installation of solar and energy storage systems on County property whenever cost-effective.

Lead Department: ISD

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

The benefits of emissions-free electricity, solar energy, and energy storage on County facilities include environmental benefits, such as reduced carbon footprint, and financial benefits such as helping reduce the County's utility expenses and insulating 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 November 2022, the County Board of Supervisors approved solar contracts for five additional County facilities for a total of 2.6MW that will save the County approximately \$2.9 million in energy costs over the contract lifetime. In anticipation of the California Public Utilities Commission Net Energy Metering rule changes that will affect the financial feasibility of future solar projects submitted after April 14th, 2023, ISD applied for "grandfathered" solar interconnection for 71 County facilities. While not all those sites will ultimately result in feasible and economically viable projects, they put the County in a position to greatly expand solar on its own facilities.

ISD has also released a Request For Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) for a master power purchase agreement. This master agreement will allow the County to issue work orders for the installation, maintenance, and purchase of solar, battery storage, and microgrid power through a pre-approved power purchase agreement.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

By fall 2023, some new construction should begin on some of the original five solar project sites previously approved by the Board. By year end, ISD anticipates returning to the Board to execute additional solar power purchase agreements and to present for approval a master power purchase agreement.

Action 90: Develop and implement a strategy to eliminate fossil fuels in County operated co-generation facilities.

Lead Department: ISD

Horizon: Medium Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

A co-generation facility, also known as a combined heat and power system, is an energy plant that recovers waste heat from conventional power generation to produce thermal energy. While many co-generation facilities rely on fossil fuels such as natural gas, they can be designed to rely on renewable sources of energy. Eliminating fossil fuels in County operated co-generation facilities will reduce the County's carbon footprint, improve air quality, and advance the goal of a fossil fuel free County.

What progress has been made?

Of the County's co-generation facilities under ISD management (Central, Pitchess, and Olive View), two have already been retired and the third (Olive View) is in the process of being decommissioned.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

All of the County's co-generation facilities will be fully decommissioned by year-end 2023. PW is managing the upgrade of the Central Heating and Cooling Plant and has already decommissioned and removed the old co-generation turbines.

Action 92: Install electric vehicle (EV) chargers at County facilities and properties for public, employee, and fleet use, prioritizing locations in disadvantaged communities.

Lead Department: ISD

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

When combined with cleaner sources of electricity and an overall reduction in vehicle miles traveled, a zero-emission transportation system will reduce pollution and deliver cleaner air. A key to this transformation is a commitment to transitioning from fossil fuel combustion to zero-emission vehicle technologies like electric vehicles. To scale up the adoption of electric vehicles, a robust network of charging stations is needed to facilitate reliable and efficient long-distance travel by EVs for County business needs and the public.

What progress has been made?

To date, the County has installed 1,075 Level 2 EV charging stations as well as 12 DC fast chargers throughout the County on the PowerFlex network. Of those stations, 574 chargers are available to the visiting public and 168 chargers are dedicated to the County fleet to support their fleet electrification plans. Charger locations are selected based on equitable distribution throughout communities and all five Supervisorial Districts, using an ISD developed GIS map, EVConnect, and includes CalEnviroScreen and Justice40 communities data layers.

ISD hosted four public outreach events and has produced materials to educate employees and the public on EV and charging infrastructure, including a “how-to” webinar on using the PowerFlex app. ISD completed an EV Supply Equipment (EVSE) workforce development pilot training as part of a larger EVSE workforce training program in collaboration with Cerritos College and California Conservation Corps.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

ISD will continue to support departments to install EVSEs with a goal of installing 600 chargers per year.

Action 94: Convert Sheriff’s Department (LASD) fleet to zero emission by partnering with vehicle manufacturers to develop a zero emission pursuit vehicle and transport bus.

Lead Department: LASD
Horizon: Medium Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

The LASD air and climate pollution footprint can be significantly improved with conversion to an electric fleet. LASD provides leadership on converting pursuit and transport vehicles to electric alternatives.

What progress has been made?

Over the prior year, LASD worked towards completing the electric bus specifications. Ultimately, the end user for the proposed EV transport buses put a hold on procuring such a vehicle. LASD is continuing efforts to installed EV chargers at its stations to support the electrification of its non-pursuit vehicle fleet and intends for all of its stations to have charging capability.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

LASD will continue looking into alternative EV vehicles, including zero emissions pursuit vehicles and transport buses, that may qualify for available grant assistance that can benefit the department.

Goal 8: A convenient, safe, clean, and affordable transportation system that enhances mobility and quality of life while reducing car dependency

Action 95: Partner with Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) and equipment manufacturers to pilot a zero emission fire engine.

Lead Department: LACoFD
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

LACoFD’s air and climate pollution footprint can be significantly improved with conversion to electric fire engines. LACoFD provides leadership on converting heavy duty and specialty vehicles to electric alternatives.

What progress has been made?

The LACoFD Fleet Services Division has conducted extensive research on the top three electric fire engine manufacturers’ products, including sending personnel to inspect Rosenbauer and Pierce electric fire apparatuses in Lyons, South Dakota and Madison, Wisconsin respectively. The E1 Rev group Volterra electric fire apparatus was inspected at the LACoFD Instructors Conference in Indianapolis. All three manufacturers are making advancements in their products and in very short time frames. The final determination of which fire apparatus will best suit the LACoFD will be determined at the time funding is available.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

The LACoFD will continue to explore opportunities to learn more about the advancements in electric fire engines and to seek grant funding to purchase an electric fire engine. When grant funding is secured, the LACoFD expects to purchase and test a fully electric engine. This new fire engine must pass rigorous field testing to ensure required capabilities are fully functional for extended emergency incidents.

Action 97: Support Metro’s effort to study congestion pricing and amplify considerations of equity.

Lead Department: DPH, PW
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct & Indirect

About this Action

Congestion pricing is a transportation demand management strategy to reduce peak-period vehicle traffic. It involves charging road users during set peak times or dynamically based on demand, acting essentially as variable road tolls. The funds that are raised can be used for transportation improvements and programs, such as free transit passes or bus rapid transit. Metro is currently studying such a strategy, called the Traffic Reduction Study. A congestion pricing program in the County should be designed so that the benefits and costs of the program are equitably distributed.

What progress has been made?

Metro updated its 2019 Traffic Reduction Study with a second round of modeling that incorporated data on post-COVID travel changes, introduced a revised concept for Downtown LA, and added an exemption for low-income drivers and HOV+ vehicles from paying tolls. This updated study was presented to the Metro Board of Directors on June 16, 2023.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

Metro staff will conduct public engagement starting this summer to seek input on the modeling results and the goals of using pricing to reduce congestion, reinvest in transportation alternatives, and provide low-income assistance. Metro staff expects to bring a recommendation to the Metro Board in early 2024. If the Board chooses to advance a pilot or pilots, the next phase of the project would be an environmental review and a more detailed pilot design.

Action 99: Develop and implement a comprehensive parking reform strategy, which should include, but not be limited to: elimination of minimum parking requirements for all new residential units, establishment of parking maximums within half a mile of high quality transit stops, creation and expansion of parking benefits districts, incentives for developers to provide less than maximum allowable parking.

Lead Department: DRP
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

While parking requirements were created as a tool for local governments to ensure that buildings and destinations have adequate parking to meet demand, they have unintended consequences. Parking requirements can add significant costs to new developments and redevelopments and often do not serve individuals who do not drive cars. For example, parking requirements can add substantial costs to redevelopment projects in neighborhoods with older buildings, as they were often built before parking requirements were in place; updating them to meet today's parking requirements is difficult and costly. The cost of meeting parking requirements can be prohibitive, preventing investments for the transformation of existing uses or the expansion of businesses. To address this, parking reform can be a strategy to reduce barriers to investments, especially in multifamily housing production; reduce the overall costs of housing; and help lower vehicle miles traveled.

What progress has been made?

The Multi-Family Residential Parking Study was concluded and recommendations were finalized in October 2022. A draft Multifamily Residential Parking Ordinance was prepared, and it incorporates Assembly Bill 2097 (Friedman), abolishing parking minimums for new development within a half-mile radius of a transit stop or high-quality transit corridor, with a few exceptions. The second phase of community engagement was conducted, which focused on the public's review of the draft Ordinance, shared how community perspectives were incorporated, and continued gathering feedback on the draft Ordinance. A second Core Community Voices virtual session and three virtual Community Open Houses were held in October 2022. Over 80 community leaders attended the Core Community Voices session, and a total of 44 participants attended the virtual open houses. Phase 2 outreach revealed that many people were concerned with the pace of change in California neighborhoods, yet participants generally recognized the link between parking and housing affordability. Participants also highlighted the vast differences in multimodal network quality, and they appreciated the contextual flexibility of the Transportation Demand Management point-based

system outlined in the Ordinance. A public hearing for the Multifamily Residential Parking Ordinance was held on March 1, 2023.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

Additional discussions will be scheduled with the Regional Planning Commission in summer 2023.

Action 100: Offer free transit passes for students, youth, seniors, disabled, and low-income populations.

Lead Department: PW

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct & Indirect

About this Action

Availability of 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 communities, those who have limited or no access to private vehicles, and others who choose to travel sustainably. A Free Transit Pass or Fareless Transit 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 2022, Metro initiated the Fareless System Initiative Pilot Project (GoPass) to develop a free transit pass program for grades K-14 LA County students. Metro's program is focused on increasing ridership, increasing student success, and improving student health. PW has partnered with Metro in the Fareless System Initiative Pilot Project to include Sunshine Shuttle, which provides transit service in the unincorporated County communities of South Whittier, as a participating transit service. In 2023, PW coordinated with Metro on GoPass marketing and implemented TAP card acceptance of free GoPass. Participation in Metro's fareless system allows County residents to enjoy free fares throughout Metro's service area, not just unincorporated County areas.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

Metro's GoPass Pilot Project has been extended through June 2024. PW will continue its coordination with Metro and evaluate opportunities to provide free fares to the general public on County shuttle services. The Free Transit Passes program presents a great opportunity to help ridership recover from the impacts of COVID-19, which included a ridership reduction of more than 50 percent for most County transit services.

Action 101: Develop and implement a transportation demand management (TDM) ordinance that requires developers to incorporate measures such as subsidized transit passes and car share.

Lead Department: CSO, PW

Horizon: Short-to-Medium Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) is a tool that uses a set of strategies aimed at maximizing traveler choices. A TDM ordinance will require developers of land development projects to apply various TDM measures which reduce the use of Single Occupant Vehicles (SOV) and accommodate other transportation mobility options. This action will support the development of SOV-reducing projects through the County. In addition, a TDM ordinance will support the goals of Senate Bill 743 to reduce vehicle miles traveled in the region and support greenhouse gas mitigation.

What progress has been made?

PW has made progress by establishing the framework and tentative schedule of the County's TDM ordinance. PW is currently expected to complete the draft scope of work for a consultant contract by August 2023 and is working to secure available funding sources while exploring pro-bono support to more quickly deliver a TDM ordinance. PW has applied for grants to help fund this effort.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

The completion of this action is contingent on funding, and funding has been requested to develop the TDM ordinance and support an extensive public outreach process. Pending sufficient funding and resources in the next fiscal year, PW expects to procure a consultant and create a Technical Advisory Committee including DRP, County Counsel, and local agencies to advise on the TDM ordinance. This effort will require approximately 3 years from procuring a consultant to Board adoption.

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 death.

Lead Department: PW, DPH

Horizon: Short to Medium Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Between 2020-2022, traffic deaths on unincorporated county roadways increased by 26 percent. Because of these dangers, people may not feel comfortable when using various modes of active transportation. Through the implementation of the County's Vision Zero Action Plan (Vision Zero), which contains strategies to eliminate traffic related fatalities and severe injuries, the County aims to enhance the safety of unincorporated County roadways, thereby creating more sustainable and vibrant communities. The Vision Zero initiative focuses efforts in communities that are most burdened by traffic deaths and severe injuries, and accounts for equity by applying a prioritization factor for collisions that occurred in the most disadvantaged communities per the Healthy Places Index.

What progress has been made?

Vision Zero partner agencies and departments coordinated to plan and implement traffic safety enhancements throughout the unincorporated communities. They continued to work on many actions outlined in the Plan, pursued grants, and provided temporary traffic calming

solutions to neighborhoods through previously established programs such as the Slow Streets Program, which is estimated to have served nearly 60,000 residents since July 2020.

To promote pedestrian safety, DPH, with support from PW, developed pedestrian plans for the communities of East Los Angeles, East Rancho Dominguez, Florence Firestone, and Willowbrook/West Rancho Dominguez and will release final drafts for public hearings in summer 2023. DPH also recently secured regional funding to develop a Lennox Community Pedestrian Plan, as well as State funding to develop new pedestrian plans in Del Aire, Alondra Park, Rancho Dominguez, West Carson, West Puente Valley, Valinda, and South San Jose Hills. Through an Office of Traffic Safety grant, DPH provided bilingual (English and Spanish) bicycle and pedestrian safety education in East Los Angeles and Florence Firestone.

PW continued to scope, plan, design, and implement various traffic safety enhancements, including, but not limited to, new traffic signals, pedestrian flashing beacons, and high visibility crosswalks along a variety of Collision Concentration Corridors (CCC) such as Firestone Boulevard, Normandie Avenue, City Terrace Drive, El Segundo Boulevard, Crenshaw Boulevard, and Hawthorne Boulevard, Lennox Boulevard, Pacific Boulevard, among others. For example, in fall 2022, a quick-build project that included the installation of curb extensions using flexible posts and paint was completed on Firestone Boulevard, the County's top CCC, at the intersections of Maie Avenue and Fir Avenue.

PW, with the support of DPH, applied for and was awarded \$21.49 million from the United States Department of Transportation that will be used for traffic safety infrastructure enhancements and programs in the Florence-Firestone community. Additionally, PW applied for Measure M, Metro Subregional Program funding through the South Bay Cities Council of Governments, and for Active Transportation Program, Cycle 6 grant funding to support various projects and programs. Application examples included a traffic safety project in Lennox and the development of a Safe Routes to School Plan for unincorporated County communities.

Furthermore, PW began to update traffic safety guidelines for recommending roadway safety enhancements, and in consultation with County Counsel, developed a draft ordinance for the Board of Supervisors' consideration to allow bicycle riding on sidewalks in unincorporated communities.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

PW intends to focus on several actions from the Vision Zero Action Plan in FY 2024-2025, including continuing to plan and implement infrastructure that can save lives such as high visibility crosswalks, leading pedestrian intervals, curb extensions, and left turn signal phasing, specifically along top collision concentration corridors. In FY 2024-2025 PW also anticipates continuing to update, as necessary, the County's guidelines for recommending roadway safety enhancements.

In the coming fiscal year, DPH will present its latest round of Community Pedestrian Plans for public hearings before the Regional Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. The plans propose roadway safety enhancements for specific corridors and intersections in five Vision Zero communities, as well as supportive County programs to advance the

County's traffic safety and public health goals. Additionally, DPH anticipates beginning work on a Lennox Community Pedestrian Plan; as well as receiving State funds and seeking contractual services for new plans in Del Aire, Alondra Park, Rancho Dominguez, West Carson, West Puente Valley, Valinda, and South San Jose Hills.

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 Department: PW, ISD

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 food service ware articles. This action continues that work by requiring PW to conduct outreach to impacted businesses and implement the prohibition on food service ware articles at food facilities and retail establishments in the unincorporated areas and at County facilities.

What progress has been made?

The County has been a strong advocate for countywide and statewide legislation and policies to reduce the impacts of single-use plastics. On April 19, 2022, the Board adopted the Reduction of Waste from Single-Use Articles and Expanded Polystyrene Products Ordinance, which prohibits food facilities from providing ready-to-eat food to customers with single-use food service ware unless it is recyclable or compostable. On June 22, 2022, PW submitted a report to the Board responding to their directive to launch an outreach and education campaign leading up to the compliance and phase-in periods of the Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors approved a consultant contract in January 2023. PW is working with the consultant to visit and educate food facilities subject to the Ordinance. PW is also working with DPH to provide outreach materials to impacted businesses during routine health inspections.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

PW's consultant will be conducting one-on-one site visits to the over 2,600 businesses in unincorporated communities. Permanent food facilities will receive site visits by June 2023. Mobile food facilities, temporary food facilities, farmer's markets, and catering operations will receive site visits by July 2023.

For qualifying food facilities experiencing financial hardship, PW is developing a plan to provide product samples (such as compliant plates, cups, lids, and utensils). This will give impacted businesses the opportunity to test the products and provide compliant products at

no cost to that businesses while they transition. PW is also identifying resources to provide financial assistance for affected businesses.

PW is in the process of executing an agreement to receive approximately \$400,000 in grant funding from the Ocean Protection Council for outreach to enhance Ordinance implementation.

Action 108: Adopt and advocate for producer and manufacturer responsibility requirements.

Lead Department: CSO, PW

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 these materials 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. 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 on a broad scale such as nationally or statewide.

What progress has been made?

PW continues to build support for statewide and national extended producer responsibility (EPR) legislation for plastic packaging and the various products that are difficult to manage at the end of its useful life. During the 2021-22 state legislative session several EPR bills were chaptered into law as recommended by the Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling (Commission). Many bills will either create or improve collection and proper disposal programs for items such as single-use plastic packaging, single-use food ware, and other single-use products; batteries and products embedded with batteries; bans on microplastics, intentionally added PFAS chemicals and means to deter illegal dumping. The County supported state legislation on illegal dumping (AB 2374), battery and e-waste recycling (AB 2440 and SB 1215), and contractor disciplinary action (AB 1747) that was enacted during the 2021-2022 state legislative session.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

During the current 2023-24 legislative session PW will continue to monitor and analyze bills that are aligned with the County and state legislative agenda to create and improve EPR programs and are also aligned with the County's Zero Waste Plan to support waste diversion and prevention. Overall, PW is supportive of bills that aim to reduce reliance on landfills, maximize the reuse of natural resources, and recover materials for beneficial uses. PW will

continue to track and review bills covering solar panel waste, illegal dumping, single-use plastic packaging, proper EV battery disposal, textile recovery, and much more.

Action 110: Conduct regular Waste Characterization Studies for sectors and sub-sectors and public space, including County facilities, to gather data on actual waste generation, composition, and recycling rates.

Lead Department: PW
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Waste characterization studies, or waste audits, determine the mix of waste types in the disposed waste of an area or facility by collecting waste data and taking samples of the waste. Waste characterization studies can be used to determine valuable information about the disposal stream, such as how much of the disposed waste is recyclable, organic, or hazardous. The information gained from waste characterization is important for establishing or improving waste collection and diversion programs for a given location and for developing relevant strategies to reduce waste generation.

What progress has been made?

The County contracted with Cascadia Consulting Group to conduct a waste characterization study to examine solid waste composition and generation rates originating in the unincorporated communities of the County. Cascadia collected samples from 360 single family households and recruited an additional 100 businesses to participate in the study. For FY 22-23, Cascadia Consulting group will be working with the County on producing final project reports to share with stakeholders.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

In FY 23-24, the waste characterization study project reports will be finalized to help PW effectively design programs to address trends in solid waste disposal and diversion. Data on the waste streams for specific communities and customer types will help the County to develop waste reduction and recycling programs as well as outreach. The results of the study will be shared with relevant stakeholders, including businesses, government institutions, professional industries, and the public, in late 2023 after the final report is completed.

Action 112: Expand use of sustainable pavement methods and materials on County roadways.

Lead Department: PW
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Senate Bill 1, also known as the Gas Tax, was passed by California voters in 2017. It provided funding to local agencies through the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account, to improve maintenance on local roads. PW created a Sustainable Three-Pronged

Approach to implement new roadway improvement projects, which includes 1) preserve pavements, 2) use recycled materials, and 3) re-utilize existing materials in-place. Delivering projects using this strategy will result in decreased greenhouse gas emissions, decreased energy usage, and decreased material deposition in landfills. Such efforts will also support expanding the use of sustainable pavement methods and materials through delivery of new roadway projects that utilize sustainable construction techniques.

What progress has been made?

To date, PW has implemented a robust pavement preservation program that utilizes 100 percent of Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement as aggregate in all of its asphalt mixes. This program is ongoing and has also adopted new pavement rehabilitation and reconstruction techniques that recycle existing asphalt and re-use existing base materials in-place. These strategies decrease the amount of vehicular traffic on construction sites and decrease greenhouse gas emissions, energy usage, and landfill deposition.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

PW is closely monitoring innovations in the pavement industry for new technologies that are aligned with this Action. Some new innovations include hot mix asphalt that utilizes 100 percent of Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement for aggregate, asphalt additives that re-use recycled rubber from vehicle tires as well as mixes that utilize recycled plastics and reduce the use of petroleum products in the asphalt. PW will continue to monitor these innovations to determine when pilot projects are appropriate. PW plans to also expand its implementation of the Sustainable Three-Pronged Approach to further advance the use of sustainable pavement treatments.

Action 119: Ensure that all County facilities over 25,000 square feet report their energy and water use to Energy Star Portfolio Manager, perform retro-commissioning at those facilities with the greatest energy use and/or energy use intensity, and attain an Energy Star rating when cost-effective.

Lead Department: ISD
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

The first step to managing an efficient, high-performance building is to understand the building's operations, including measuring its energy and water use and comparing its performance to other, similar buildings. The process of evaluating an existing building's systems and operations is called retro-commissioning, and comparing the energy and water use of a building to other buildings is called benchmarking. ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager, part of the EPA ENERGY STAR program, is the country's industry-leading benchmarking tool. Nearly 25 percent of commercial building space in the U.S. is already actively benchmarking in Portfolio Manager.

What progress has been made?

Last fiscal year, ISD assisted all County departments with facilities covered under AB802 (buildings 50,000 square feet or greater) to complete their ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager reporting requirements.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

ISD will continue supporting departments with energy and water use reporting and will pursue retro-commissioning and ENERGY STAR certification wherever feasible and when funding is available.

Action 120: Establish guidelines for large-quantity food waste or green waste generators to perform on-site composting, mulching, or anaerobic digestion, and develop a marketing plan for the product.

Lead Department: ACWM, DPR, PW

Horizon: Medium Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

When organic waste is disposed of in landfills, its decomposition generates emissions of methane, a climate pollutant 84 times more powerful than carbon dioxide in terms of atmospheric warming. Sustainably managing organic waste, such as with onsite composting, mulching, or anaerobic digestion, can offer significant immediate emissions reduction benefits to help mitigate the climate crisis. Onsite organic waste management will divert waste from landfills and support the development of new organic waste recycling infrastructure in the County. Infrastructure and programs to divert organic waste from landfills can also produce beneficial products, such as renewable electricity, renewable fuels, compost, and mulch. The State Senate Bill (SB) 1383 (2016, Lara) regulations require local jurisdictions to divert organic waste from landfills and procure recovered organic waste products to create markets that will support infrastructure development.

What progress has been made?

In 2022, SB 1383 organic waste disposal reduction regulations took effect. Through its waste hauling contracts, PW began providing organic waste collection services to businesses and residents in unincorporated County communities. According to the County's Mandatory Organic Waste Disposal Reduction Ordinance, which was adopted in 2021, businesses and residents may also manage their organic waste on-site. In 2022, PW hosted nearly 150 free virtual and in-person Smart Gardening events to educate residents on home composting, water-wise gardening, grasscycling, and other strategies for sustainable organic waste management.

All Commercial Franchise haulers are required to purchase renewable fuel and/or purchase compost and mulch for giveaways to County constituents. Future Residential Franchise hauler contracts will include similar requirements as Commercial Franchise contracts.

In November 2021, the Board also adopted a policy that set expectations for County departments to ensure compliance with SB 1383 requirements, including maximizing organic waste diversion by signing up for collection services or managing organic waste onsite and procuring recovered organic waste products such as compost and mulch. DPR procured 3,837 cubic yards of mulch for 2021. In addition, DPR amended its Park Maintenance Service Contract to include sustainability-related work such as mandatory organic materials recycling and reporting.

ACWM has continued working with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to divert green waste generated when fruit and plants are quarantined. This green waste is composted and used to create biogas. The department recently started working directly with American Reclamation to compost tree green waste generated during removal of trees infected with various wood boring insects.

DPR participated in a retreat in April 2023 on cities, composting, and nature-based solutions to climate change, sponsored by the Volgenau Climate Initiative and is actively pursuing collaborations with LA Compost for the implementation of community composting in County parks.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

PW will continue conducting outreach to residents, businesses, and County facilities, informing them of the organic waste management requirements, which include participating in organic waste collection services and/or managing organic waste on-site. Free Smart Gardening events for residents will also continue. DPR will continue to pursue collaboration to implement community composting at parks.

To meet SB 1383 requirements and identify additional recovery opportunities, PW will continue to track and report recovered organic waste product procurement and will work with waste haulers and County departments to increase their procurement of recovered organic waste products as processing facilities are developed and expanded and supply increases. In addition, PW will continue efforts to identify sources of other recovered organic waste products, such as renewable electricity created from recovered organic waste, to help the County comply with the SB 1383 procurement requirement. PW will collaborate with local energy providers to identify opportunities to use SB 1383-compliant electricity in County operations.

Next year, ACWM will begin studying how green waste is disposed at the Central Wholesale Produce Market, where large amounts of green waste are generated, and explore opportunities for biofuel production.

Action 121: Promote and communicate source separation, organic waste collection requirements, food waste reduction and donation, and local organic waste recycling programs, and conduct targeted, sector-based educational campaigns.

Lead Department: ACWM, DPH, PW
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Indirect

About this Action

This action will redistribute nutritious food that would otherwise be sent to landfills to low-income communities while reducing carbon dioxide and methane emissions associated with waste disposal in the County. Establishing sustainable waste management to help foster vibrant and thriving County communities is a priority for the County, as demonstrated by the adoption of the Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future in 2014, which was

subsequently incorporated into the OurCounty goals. In 2022, the Board adopted an updated Roadmap, which is now referred to as the Zero Waste Plan.

What progress has been made?

Both DPH and PW have significant initiatives to reduce food waste and increase organic waste recycling. DPH, in partnerships with community-based organizations, implements the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education program, known in California as the CalFresh Healthy Living Program. A key strategy of the program is to increase access to healthy food by distributing fresh, wholesome surplus produce. Since May 2022, 1,518,973 pounds of rescued produce reaching about 200,000 individuals has occurred. Additionally, with the financial support from the County’s Quality and Productivity Commission, DPH’s Nutrition & Physical Activity Program partnered with a technology-based company that developed a food recovery mobile application that connected businesses with surplus food to community-based organizations that distributed food to vulnerable populations. Between May 2022 to December 2022, 57,831 pounds of surplus food from businesses and school districts have been donated to nonprofit organizations through this partnership, equating to 48,193 meals. This is equivalent to savings of 258,505 pounds of CO2 emissions and 5.7 million gallons of water. The funding period for the partnership with the food donation mobile application service came to a close in December 2022. In October 2022, the partnership received a “Top Ten” award from the County Quality and Productivity Commission.

Over the past fiscal year, PW, through contracted waste haulers, has implemented organic waste collection within County unincorporated areas. PW has undertaken a number of outreach efforts to promote this effort including in-person and virtual community meetings, distribution of kitchen pails for food scraps, print and digital outreach, free smart gardening seminars, and much more.

The County’s Food Donation and Recovery Outreach Program (Food DROP) continued to provide education, outreach, and resources to businesses to safely donate their excess food to local charities to feed the hungry. Approximately 200 tons of edible food are donated by food generating businesses in the County unincorporated areas to local food recovery agencies each year.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

DPH will continue its SNAP-Ed (CalFresh Healthy Living) programming and partnerships with surplus produce distribution agencies into the next year, providing free rescued produce to local communities.

PW will continue to provide outreach and education via social media, websites, community meetings, print materials, and various other means. Progress will be tracked by a number of methods used to provide outreach and education to residents and businesses to promote proper source separation, organic waste collection, food waste reduction, edible food donation, and participation in local organic waste recycling programs.

PW will continue efforts to establish a sustainable solid waste collection system in the north County areas of Acton, Agua Dulce, and the Antelope Valley that will comply with SB 1383. These efforts will require robust stakeholder engagement and outreach to ensure that the unique needs of the residents are addressed.

Action 122: Expand and support existing countywide programs that incentivize the development of local upcycling and recycling markets and quality recycled materials.

Lead Development: PW
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Businesses that recycle, upcycle, and remanufacture materials create jobs that support local communities. They also provide environmental benefits by diverting these materials from landfills and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. Policies such as the Green Zones Ordinance promote equity by ensuring large polluting businesses are not concentrated in specific areas such as disadvantaged communities. By attracting new businesses and/or expanding current operations, the Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program will create new jobs and support economic recovery.

What progress has been made?

The State of California Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program combines recycling with economic development to fuel new businesses, expand existing ones, create jobs, and divert waste from landfills. As part of the RMDZ Program, the County serves as a local Zone Administrator providing resources, such as technical assistance and free product marketing to businesses that use materials from the waste stream to manufacture their products within the County. The County RMDZ Program provides an important resource to incentivize new recycling businesses to operate in the County. To date, businesses in the County RMDZ have been awarded 30 loans totaling over \$25 million, the most of any RMDZ in the state.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

The County RMDZ program received \$21,090 in Zone Incentive Funds that will be used by May 2024 for an outreach campaign to inform local recycling, upcycling, and remanufacturing businesses nationwide about the RMDZ program. PW will begin the process of advertising the RMDZ Program by posting advertisements on social media and print publications and also by developing and printing brochures to distribute during events.

Action 123: Increase the diversion requirements in the County's Construction and Demolition debris ordinance, encourage the use of recycled-content materials in construction projects, and incentivize use of recycled materials in public art projects funded or commissioned by the County.

Lead Development: PW
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

According to a 2014 report by CalRecycle, construction and demolition (C&D) materials are estimated to account for up to a quarter of California's waste disposal yet based on the County's experience, it is feasible to recycle or reuse at least 70 percent of all C&D debris.

An updated C&D ordinance could significantly reduce the amount of materials that are disposed of, helping meet state regulations, advance local goals, and further support secondary markets for recycled content.

What progress has been made?

The 2005 C&D Debris Recycling and Reuse Ordinance has been updated to increase the recycling rate of C&D debris generated in the unincorporated County, reduce illegal dumping in vulnerable areas, and require certification from facilities to establish consistent standards and level the playing field in the industry. The updated Ordinance requires tracking and reporting of all materials to ensure they are managed at a certified facility.

The updated Ordinance was approved by the Board and took effect in March 2023. The updated Ordinance raises the minimum recycling rate from 50 percent to 70 percent and requires 100 percent accountability for all project C&D debris to allow PW to better track recycling and disposal. PW is currently drafting guidelines to clarify the implementation procedures of the Ordinance and is also updating the online permitting system to ensure accountability and increase compliance.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

PW will continue to educate and engage stakeholders, including contractors, recycling facilities, property owners, and County project proponents and managers, to ensure that stakeholders are fully aware of the updated Ordinance requirements. This includes sending an outreach letter to all impacted facilities within the region, as identified through the state database. PW will continue to track the number of C&D permit applications that are received as well as the amount of C&D debris that is recycled. Additionally, PW will implement a third-party certification program to help facilities qualify as a certified C&D facility under the updated Ordinance.

Action 124: Establish rigorous recycling programs and requirements in County departments.

Lead Development: PW

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

County departments are encouraged to prevent, reduce, and divert their waste, and are also required to comply with waste management laws, regulations, and policies affecting local jurisdictions. Each County department has a Recycling Coordinator as well as an Organic Waste Liaison to implement sustainable waste management practices. The County has a policy that sets expectations for County departments to ensure compliance with SB 1383 requirements, including maximizing organic waste diversion by signing up for collection services or managing organic waste onsite and procuring recovered organic waste products such as compost and mulch. PW regularly engages with County departments to provide assistance with implementation.

What progress has been made?

PW supports County departments in their recycling initiatives and reporting efforts. PW hosts regular meetings for County Department Recycling Coordinators and Organic Waste

Liaisons to discuss waste prevention, reduction, and diversion practices. These practices include compliance with related County policies and ordinances to reduce single-use plastics, recycle organic waste disposal, recover edible food, and procure sustainable and environmentally preferable products. The meetings also discuss outreach material developed (websites, resource management information sheets, etc.) and strategies that County departments can use to properly manage other waste streams, including hazardous waste such as toner cartridges and batteries. In addition, PW regularly publishes Department Recycling Coordinator newsletters.

PW works directly with County departments assisting them with implementing requirements to reduce single-use plastics and organic waste disposal including providing site assessments and resource management plans to facilitate optimal waste management at facilities. The resource management plans provide resources and customized recommendations on best management practices to assist each facility in complying with State and County solid waste management requirements. Using a CalRecycle grant, PW purchased and delivered a total of 8 hydration stations to the Hall of Administration and other County facilities that track the amount of water used and provide live feedback on the equivalent number of plastic water bottles avoided, motivating employees to continue reducing waste by using reusable water bottles. PW also gathers information on waste prevention, reduction, recycling, and recovered product procurement from County departments to report to CalRecycle as part of state reporting requirements.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

PW plans to continue its coordination efforts, working closely with County departments to effectively implement and track waste prevention and recycling efforts.

Goal 10: A sustainable and just food system that enhances access to affordable, local, and healthy food

Action 127: Maximize enrollment in CalFresh by partnering with public-facing agencies to promote the program and assist residents of LA County with the application.

Lead Department: DPSS
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

CalFresh is the County’s biggest food safety net program, offering cash-like benefits to low-income people at risk of hunger. It is a federally funded entitlement program, meaning there is no cap on the number of people it can serve; anybody who is eligible may enroll. Studies have shown that it lifts families out of poverty, making it important for overall community resilience – especially during emergencies and times of economic stress. Historically, participation has been low in the County, though DPSS has made significant efforts to improve participation in the past five years. This action will build on existing efforts to further support participation.

What progress has been made?

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a long-term lack of access to nutritious foods for many communities in high-need areas of the County, particularly for Asian, Asian Pacific Islanders (API), Seniors, and LGBTQ+ communities. To address this issue, DPSS has created strong partnerships with community-based and faith-based organizations throughout Los Angeles County and has recently undertaken a project that specifically focuses on those populations most impacted by the pandemic. By utilizing direct outreach and working with trusted messengers and partner organizations, DPSS aims to maximize enrollment in CalFresh and reduce food insecurity.

There are numerous efforts underway to support community members in filling out applications. This includes the CalFresh Application Assister Program, which is a partnership between DPSS and over 200 community-based and faith-based organizations, health centers, schools, colleges, and universities that have volunteered and committed to assisting the community by filing CalFresh applications manually and through the BenefitsCal website. Another important DPSS partnership is with Code for America who is assisting customers applying for CalFresh benefits online. Code for America provides a streamlined application experience, assist customers with support services, including reminders through text or email, and helps customers with the submission of reports and verifications. This is one more access point for those who want to apply for CalFresh in addition to BenefitsCal.

DPSS has also continued its partnership with Compton College, connecting low-income college students to CalFresh. Their data-sharing agreement allows for targeted outreach and application assistance to increase CalFresh enrollments. As a result, there has been a significant increase in CalFresh participation over the past year among Compton College students.

Lastly, DPSS has worked to improve the overall application process and has implemented multiple policies which enhances customer experience and expedites the application processing both at intake and renewal.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

DPSS will continue to make strides in increasing CalFresh enrollment throughout Los Angeles County. The department is in the process of implementing AB 1326, which mandates counties to partner with public institutions of higher education to inform and connect students to public assistance programs and services. A total of 24 colleges and universities have been identified in Los Angeles County, who will be part of this implementation. In addition, DPSS will continue the partnerships and implementation programs for targeted outreach to high-need populations.

Action 128: Enhance and expand the County's existing Food DROP food donation and redistribution program to divert edible food from landfills and make it available to food insecure communities.

Lead Department: PW

Horizon: Medium to Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct & Indirect

About this Action

Each year, County businesses and residents send on average nearly 1.76 million tons of uneaten food to regional landfills, yet the County is home to the largest population of food insecure people in the nation, with nearly 1 in 4 people in the County lacking access to daily nutritious meals. In 2018, the County launched Food DROP to provide education, outreach, and resources to businesses to safely donate their excess food to local charities to feed the hungry, resulting in approximately 200 tons of edible food donations each year. Enhancing and expanding Food DROP will help reduce food waste and its impact on climate change while providing food to those who need it. It also supports the County's Zero Waste Plan and the County's requirements to comply with SB 1383.

What progress has been made?

From 2021 to 2022, PW took the lead in assessing existing Countywide edible food recovery capacity of over 700 agencies and identifying the need to expand the capacity in the County. During this period, PW completed an analysis of the data collected through the capacity assessment. PW prepared a report that was presented to 88 cities in the County and submitted to CalRecycle. A database along with an ArcGIS-based regional food recovery map were developed to store information on identified food recovery agencies, which will help the County and cities monitor food recovery activities in the region and potentially develop plans to assist these food recovery agencies in enhancing their infrastructure.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

PW will continue monitoring food donation activities to ensure all large edible food generating businesses in County unincorporated areas are in compliance with SB 1383 food recovery requirements. PW will develop plans to support food recovery agencies, such as identifying potential locations for developing centralized food hubs throughout the County that will drive efficiency and optimize the logistics of food recovery and distribution. PW will also seek opportunities to collaborate with the CSO, local jurisdictions, and Councils of Governments to develop a food recovery grant program, including identifying budget and funding sources, to further support the development of centralized food recovery hubs.

Action 130: Support the use of public and private land for urban and peri-urban agriculture.

Lead Department: CSO

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Local agricultural production can support resilience in the food supply chain. The CSO seeks to identify mechanisms for supporting agricultural businesses, as well as enabling residents to build social cohesion and resilience through community-based agricultural initiatives.

What progress has been made?

In its role as Co-Chair of the Los Angeles County Food Equity Roundtable, CSO incorporated community priorities related to urban agriculture into the Food Equity Roundtable Strategic Plan (Plan), released in December 2022. The Board of Supervisors voted to utilize the Plan as a roadmap for LA County and directed CSO to work with County departments to identify implementation steps they will take to advance the plan. CSO, which will lead the development of policy recommendations to make land and resources more

easily accessible for urban agriculture, secured academic and consultant support to conduct geospatial analysis and policy research. Additionally, CSO launched the Food Equity Fund, a grant program that will invite proposals for urban agriculture projects alongside other community-led food equity strategies.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

CSO will begin making grant awards through the Food Equity Fund in the winter of 2023-24 and will release land access resources and policy recommendations over the 2023-24 academic year. CSO will also support DRP with incorporating urban agriculture-related community priorities into area plan updates and seek to support cities with incorporating urban agriculture goals into their own plans and policies.

Goal 11: Inclusive, transparent, and accountable governance that facilitates participation in sustainability efforts, especially by disempowered communities

Action 145: Develop a climate-related health equity data initiative that includes collection and dissemination, builds stakeholder capacity, and drives decision making.

Lead Department: DPH
Horizon: Short Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

As one of the largest local health departments in the country, the County’s DPH is uniquely positioned to lead the modernization of health departments’ approach to climate-health data. DPH is one of the few local health departments monitoring heat-related illness through syndromic surveillance. DPH’s Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology (OHAE) and the Acute Communicable Disease Control (ACDC) program track additional climate-health indicators, including acute respiratory illness, Valley Fever, and West Nile Virus. DPH is likewise one of the few local health departments administering its own representative population health survey—the Los Angeles County Health Survey—which provides finer-scale data on physical and mental health indicators and health care issues facing residents of the County. Through this Climate and Health Data Initiative, DPH will build its capacity to provide timely, user-friendly data on climate-health indicators for both internal and external use via a regularly updated data dashboard. The project will improve the breadth, quality, timeliness, interpretability, and accessibility of data on local climate-health indicators to inform real-time decision-making and short-and long-term planning both within the department and with external partners such as other local agencies, governments, community-based organizations, and labor partners.

What progress has been made?

Continued impacts from the COVID-19 response and departures of the two Climate Program leads from the team limited DPH’s ability to make substantial progress on this action. While DPH requested and received data on heat-related emergency department visits from the California Department of Public Health, the analysis and publication of that data is still pending.

However, in October 2022, DPH responded to the April 2022 Board of Supervisors motion entitled “Evolving and Advancing the Board Directed Priority: Environmental Justice and Climate Health,” with a comprehensive report back outlining a planning process to develop a long term, comprehensive strategic plan to advance the County’s commitment to improving environmental conditions and related health outcomes, including data collection, analysis, and reporting on climate-health indicators.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

DPH is currently onboarding an outside consultant with expertise in stakeholder engagement and planning to lead the strategic planning process and to create a comprehensive plan for the newly created Office of Environmental Justice and Climate Health, with a ten-month timeline. The vision for the new Office relies on expanded data capabilities to guide evidence-based decision making in consultation with DPH’s Chief Science Officer. To meet the needs of the public and private partners, the new Office identified a wide range of data updates and enhancements, including a web-based data dashboard, surveillance systems, infrastructure, and data analytic capabilities. To meet these needs, the Office will require technological enhancements to develop secure data pipelines and data workflows to produce reliable, quick, and accurate data for reporting and sharing of internal and external data. DPH is creating a new Information Management and Analytics Office headed by a Chief Data Officer to meet growing data science and epidemiology needs of the department. However, the Information Management and Analytics Office will rely primarily on analysts and other subject matter experts embedded in programs across the department, highlighting the critical importance of data capacity within the new Office of Environmental Justice and Climate Health. The successful development of these capacities in the new Office will rely on identifying additional staff and funding.

Action 148: Implement arts-based civic engagement strategies to support planning and implementation of OurCounty initiatives.

Lead Department: Arts and Culture
Horizon: Medium Term
Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Arts and Culture’s civic engagement around cultural and environmental sustainability ranges widely in scope and scale to increase access to the arts for all. Using arts-based strategies to support and complement sustainability initiatives draws people in and helps connect these initiatives with a broader range of audiences.

What progress has been made?

Artist Sandra de la Loza completed the third and final year of her artist’s residency with DPR, which focused on integrating arts and culture as a core component of parks programming, centered around themes of nature, wellness, and environmental stewardship. This is part of Arts and Culture’s Creative Strategist Program which places artists in County departments to develop and implement artist-driven solutions to complex social challenges, including challenges related to health, equity, and sustainability. To sustain this work for the long term, Arts and Culture engaged an arts coach to work with Sandra, DPR staff, and community

stakeholders on the development of a 5-year strategic arts plan to embed community-informed arts programming at Earvin “Magic” Johnson Park in Willowbrook. Other residencies which addressed challenges related to health and equity include the Creative Strategist placed with the Office of Violence Prevention, which resulted in a Storytelling Project to humanize data collected about violence and uplift the voices and stories of survivors, and a residency with the Department of Aging and Disabilities, modeling intergenerational arts programming in four community centers in the County’s First District.

Arts and Culture’s Civic Art Division continued to foreground the implementation of arts-based civic engagement strategies that support cultural sustainability including: creating take-home publications to expand access and engagement to commissioned civic artworks; implementing the Arts Purchase program to engage and develop emerging local artists who may not yet be working in the public sphere; building resource lists focused regionally on Native American artists, Native Studies programs, and Native-focused museums and galleries, which will be used to support outreach efforts and calls for artists for all future commissioning opportunities; and much more.

What’s planned for next year and beyond?

Arts and Culture will continue to explore opportunities with DPR to implement the strategic arts plan at Earvin “Magic” Johnson Park. A new Creative Strategist residency with the Department of Human Resources will focus on implementing the new Employee Wellbeing Through the Arts Initiative and build capacity within the department in arts-based employee engagement strategies.

Action 149: Work with historically impacted communities to produce asset maps that identify community resources, desires, and opportunities around sustainability efforts.

Lead Department: Arts and Culture

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

Asset mapping is a tool to provide information about the strengths and resources of a community and to help uncover solutions to community needs. Once community strengths and resources, both formal and informal, are inventoried and depicted in a map, you can more easily think about how to build on those assets to address community needs and improve health and wellbeing. Asset mapping promotes community involvement, ownership, and empowerment in the identification and implementation of potential strategies.

What progress has been made?

As part of the implementation of the Countywide Cultural Policy, the Board of Supervisors directed the Department of Arts and Culture to conduct a Needs Assessment to measure all County investments in the arts, across all divisions of County government, and to assess the equity of those investments. Arts and Culture, with consultant AECOM, completed the Needs Assessment this year, which establishes a baseline of knowledge of where County arts and culture resources are currently allocated and provides data and findings to set priorities for future investments in the arts and address equity concerns. The Needs Assessment also includes a preliminary assessment of opportunities for County-owned facilities to be used for

arts and cultural activities. The data is publicly available at www.lacountyartsdata.org so that anyone can use it to understand County investments in the arts and take action on what they learn. Arts and Culture also hosted an Arts Datathon event engaging participants on Needs Assessment findings.

To further engage the public in discussions about contested cultural assets, a new initiative called *Illuminate LA* was launched. The first phase included two panel discussions on the complicated nature of monuments. A third in-person program in Grand Park provided hands-on art activities with local artists. Surveys were collected at all three events on the types of artworks people would like to see in their communities in the future. In the spring Arts and Culture launched its first digital exhibition, the *Collective Memory Installation*, in collaboration with Grand Park, to create a kind of cultural mapping on a site where contested monuments were removed. One hundred local artists, representing the geographic and demographic diversity of LA County, were paid \$1,000 each to provide artworks, which were displayed on digital screens.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

With the Needs Assessment published, the next phase of asset mapping requires significant additional public engagement to identify existing resources and future opportunities for community investments. Arts and Culture will continue to work with other County departments to leverage their outreach activities in support of this Action, including continuing to participate in work groups convened by the PW Community Engagement Coordination team and DRP to develop the South Bay and Westside Area Plans.

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: CSO

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 cities emerge from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, working collaboratively 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?

Under direction from the Board, PW is spearheading Infrastructure LA , a collaboration between County departments and relevant regional partners with the objective to maximize

the region's share of federal infrastructure spending available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for both regional and unincorporated areas. CSO and PW are co-leading a sustainability subcommittee to help achieve the Infrastructure LA goal of identifying and funding projects that advance equity, sustainability, and climate resilience.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

CSO and PW will continue to develop the goals and workplan of the sustainability subcommittee, which will include plans for collaboration and engagement with community partners. Through the committee, CSO will also kick off its "Cool Capital Stack" project, funded by a recent grant from the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) Adaptation Planning Grant Program (APGP). The Cool Capital Stack project seeks to support the creation of a pipeline of viable, fundable community-led climate resilient infrastructure projects designed to strengthen LA County communities most vulnerable to extreme heat and other climate hazards.

Action 151: Inventory and document County-owned arts and cultural assets.

Lead Department: Arts and Culture

Horizon: Short Term

Sphere of influence: Direct

About this Action

The County Department of Arts and Culture envisions the County as a region in which arts, culture, and creativity are integral to civic life for all people. This includes artworks in the Civic Art Collection (Collection) that reflect and celebrate the County's diverse landscapes, communities, and stories. It is essential to care for artworks embedded in County communities in order to preserve not only the physical artwork itself but also the visual narratives of the County's residents and the history of communities. Providing access to arts and culture through the County's Collection has enormous benefits including the development of creative learning within a community, the creation of healthy communities capable of action, and environmental stewardship of place and community identity.

What progress has been made?

Arts and Culture continues to provide care for the County's Civic Art Collection and implements new programs for activation, increasing diversity, equity, and cultural sustainability through the collection. Arts and Culture has increased its collaborations and partnerships in the inventory, documentation, maintenance, and activation of County artworks and cultural assets. Collective histories are preserved through collaborative conservation involving artists, county partners, and communities, as well as youth interested in preservation careers. Collaborative programming motivates both county officials and community residents to preserve artwork, as well as encourages new commissions.

Notable projects include the hiring of a Registrar to manage the digital assets of the Collection and provide support with artwork assessments and developing maintenance guidelines. This ensures the safety and preservation of the artworks and ensures equitable access to arts resources in the future. Ten projects are also being managed that provide conservation services to artworks in the Collection. Conservation included repairing physical

damage and breakage to artworks, removal of graffiti and application of anti-graffiti coatings, removing mold after a leak, and basic maintenance.

The Civic Art Division continued its partnership with the Broad Museum's Diversity Apprenticeship Program and mentored and trained an apprentice through artworks in the collection, gaining conservation and collections management skills.

What's planned for next year and beyond?

Civic Art Division will conserve an additional (minimum) ten artworks. A solicitation will be released for a conservation project, where community members and emerging artists are invited to help restore Botello's mural Inner Resources and City Terrace Park. As part of another project in Ted Watkins Park, a mentorship component is included that will engage youth interested in conservation and provide an opportunity to work with an established public artist.

The Civic Art Division has also secured funds to upgrade its Collections Management System, allowing its staff to better manage and access digital assets through the Arts and Culture website. In collaboration with the Research and Evaluation Division, the Civic Art Division will release its Civic Art Collection Demographics Study as part of its commitment to provide equitable changes for current and future civic art projects. The Civic Art Division hopes to secure funding so that phase 2 of *Illuminate LA* can be implemented at another County site to activate existing artworks and engage the public.

2023 Draft Priorities List

Each year, County departments and stakeholders provide feedback on a list of near-term priority actions from the OurCounty plan to create an annual Priorities List. The Priorities List builds on itself each year, as some actions are completed, some are temporarily deprioritized, and new priority actions are added. Once this 2023 Draft Priorities List is finalized, departments will use the list to inform their annual budget requests and budget planning process for FY 2023-2024. Then, the CSO will report progress on actions from the 2023 Priorities List in the 2024 Annual Progress Report.

#	Action	Lead County Entity
1	Limit siting of new sensitive uses, such as playgrounds, daycare centers, schools, residences, or medical facilities, at least 500 feet from freeways.	DRP
2	Expand the minimum setback distance for oil and gas operations from sensitive land uses.	DRP
3	Conduct an inventory to identify all abandoned/idled oil and gas infrastructure in LA County, and work with DOGGR to develop and implement a closure plan, prioritized by condition and proximity to sensitive populations, that includes identification of potential funding sources.	PW
5	Expand the role for DPH in the initial siting process and the ongoing enforcement of regulations for industrial facilities.	DPH
7	Utilize fence-line and community air monitoring data to improve emissions regulations on refineries and other industrial facilities, and expand enforcement resources for these regulations.	DPH
11	Develop a public engagement, enforcement, and compliance plan for illegal dumping.	PW
17	Advocate for drinking water affordability through equitable utility pricing, CalFresh/EBT water supplements, reducing obstacles to lifeline rates and water-efficient appliance subsidies.	CSO
19	Develop a program to map, monitor, address, and alert the public to drinking water quality issues that originate from on-site and systemic plumbing issues, incorporating reporting from water agencies as well as crowdsourcing.	CSO
27	Increase resources such as drinking water fountains, filling stations, bathrooms, showers, kitchens, and laundry facilities in parks and public spaces that can be activated to support community resilience during emergencies.	DBH, DPR
29	Develop a comprehensive heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan that addresses cool pavements and roofs, pavement reduction, and urban greening.	DPH
30	Build shade structures at major transit stops, such as those identified in Metro's Active Transportation	PW, DPR

	Strategic Plan, prioritizing communities with high heat vulnerability.	
33	Use climate projections instead of historic data for weather and precipitation modeling to inform planning, infrastructure, and community development processes.	CEO
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.	PW
35	Develop a local water supply plan.	PW
37*	Support efforts to maximize sustainable yield from local groundwater basins.	PW
41*	Advocate for a collaborative approach to partnering with the region's various groundwater managers to sustainably manage regional groundwater basins.	PW, CSO
43	Create and implement a community-informed Urban Forest Management Plan that incorporates equitable urban forest practices, identifies County funding sources, and prioritizes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	CSO
47	Support the preservation of agricultural and working lands, including rangelands, by limiting the conversion of these lands to residential or other uses through tools such as the creation of agricultural easements, particularly within high climate-hazard areas and SEAs.	DRP
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.	DRP
52	Promote walkability through various tools, including zoning that enables a mix of uses, and pedestrian enhancements.	DRP
53	Develop equitable design guidelines that promote high quality living environments for all.	DRP
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.	CSO
60	Partner with community-based organizations, educational institutions, and the private sector to	DEO

	connect and place graduates and workers with meaningful on-the-job training and employment opportunities within growth sectors of the economy.	
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.	DRP
70	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.	CSO, DPR
74	Work with cities and across agencies to plan, implement, and maintain parks, greenways, plazas (and other public spaces), vacant lot adoptions, and joint-use green schoolyards in those neighborhoods with high park need and/or missing habitat linkages.	DPR
75	Implement Community Parks and Recreation Plans, and park projects identified in the LA Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment, with priority given to those in Very High/High Need Study Areas.	DPR
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.	CSO
82	Integrate artists, cultural organizations, community members, and local tribes in planning processes and project development for parks, public lands, and public spaces to support equitable development and access to arts and culture.	Arts and Culture
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 towards building decarbonization.	PW, CSO
88	Maximize the installation of solar and energy storage systems on County property whenever cost-effective.	ISD
90	Develop and implement a strategy to eliminate fossil fuels in County operated co-generation facilities.	ISD
91*	Streamline permitting and construction of zero-emission vehicle infrastructure	PW
92	Install electric vehicle (EV) chargers at County facilities and properties for public, employee, and fleet use, prioritizing locations in disadvantaged communities.	ISD
93	Revise and regularly update the County's fleet policy to require zero-emission vehicles or better whenever available and operationally feasible.	ISD
94	Convert Sheriff's Department (LASD) fleet to zero emission by partnering with vehicle manufacturers to develop a zero emission pursuit vehicle and transport bus.	LASD

95	Partner with Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) and equipment manufacturers to pilot a zero emission fire engine.	LACoFD
97	Support Metro's efforts to study congestion pricing and amplify considerations of equity.	DPH, PW
99	Develop and implement a comprehensive parking reform strategy, which should include, but not be limited to: elimination of minimum parking requirements for all new residential units, establishment of parking maximums within half a mile of high quality transit stops, creation and expansion of parking benefit districts, and incentives for developers to provide less than maximum allowable parking.	DRP
100	Offer free transit passes for students, youth, seniors, disabled, and low-income populations.	PW
101	Develop and implement a transportation demand management (TDM) ordinance that requires developers to incorporate measures such as subsidized transit passes and car share.	PW, CSO
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.	PW, DPH
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.	PW, ISD
108	Adopt and advocate for producer and manufacturer responsibility requirements.	CSO, PW
110	Conduct regular Waste Characterization Studies for sectors and sub-sectors and public space, including County facilities, to gather data on actual waste generation, composition, and recycling rates.	PW
112	Expand use of sustainable pavement methods and materials on County roadways.	PW
119	Ensure that all County facilities over 25,000 square feet report their energy and water use to Energy Star Portfolio Manager, perform retro-commissioning at those facilities with the greatest energy use and/or energy use intensity, and attain an Energy Star rating when cost-effective.	ISD
121	Promote and communicate source separation, organic waste collection requirements, food waste reduction and donation, and local organic waste recycling programs, and conduct targeted, sector-based educational campaigns.	ACWM, DPH, PW
122	Expand and support existing countywide programs that incentivize the development of local upcycling and recycling markets and quality recycled materials.	PW
124	Establish rigorous recycling programs and requirements in County Departments.	PW
127	Maximize enrollment in CalFresh by partnering with public-facing agencies to promote the program and	DPSS

	assist residents of LA County with the application process.	
128	Enhance and expand the County's existing Food DROP food donation and redistribution program to divert edible food from landfills and make it available to food insecure communities.	PW
130	Support the use of public and private land for urban and peri-urban agriculture, such as community gardens, by measures such as identifying available public parcels, streamlining permitting and leasing processes, and incentivizing the conversion of vacant property to agricultural use.	CSO
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.	DPH, DPR
145	Develop a climate-related health equity data initiative that includes collection and dissemination, builds stakeholder capacity, and drives decision making.	DPH
148	Implement arts-based civic engagement strategies to support planning and implementation of OurCounty initiatives.	Arts and Culture
149	Work with historically impacted communities to produce asset maps that identify community resources, desires, and opportunities around sustainability efforts.	Arts and Culture
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.	CSO
151	Inventory and document County-owned arts and cultural assets.	Arts and Culture

*New Priorities for 2024