

Butte County Climate Action Plan

Work Plan

Adopted February 25, 2014

Monitoring and Updating Progress

To demonstrate progress toward plan goals, the County will use a monitoring and reporting tool. Using the same technical data that informed development of the CAP, the tool will allow County staff to evaluate CAP progress using quantitative data and qualitative progress information. The monitoring and reporting tool estimates emissions changes in the unincorporated county year-by-year using publicly available activity data, and tracks progress for each measure, including initiation dates and key metrics.

Certain measures may exceed expectations and provide more cost-effective options to reduce emissions. Other measures may not meet anticipated reductions. The Development Services Department will use the monitoring and reporting tool to provide updates to decision-makers in order to reassess funding decisions and allocation of staff time. Annual updates using the monitoring and reporting tool also allow the County to reduce the need for a full re-inventory of GHG emissions to evaluate progress.

Next Steps

Attaining CAP reduction goals will require County leadership to execute measures and report progress. Recognizing the numerous entities involved in CAP implementation and diversity of work priorities, the County has prepared a work plan identifying responsible departments and key implementation considerations for each CAP measure. The work plan will be established by separate resolution of the Board of Supervisors, and may be revised or updated independent of an amendment to the CAP. Each work plan consideration is described below.

- **Time frame:** The year by which a measure should be initiated to achieve targeted GHG emissions reductions in 2020, support adaptation to climate change effects, or achieve long-term resilience. Time frames are described as follows:
 - Immediate (by 2014)
 - Near-Term (by 2016)
 - Mid-Term (by 2018)
 - Long-Term (by 2020)
- **Lead agency:** The lead County department tasked with implementing the measure.
- **Additional agencies:** Other supportive agencies or partners that play a role in implementing the measure.
- **Staff time:** An estimate of the likely expense and staff time required to implement the measure. The County can use this information to help determine if a measure is the best use of County resources. Three cost ranges have been identified, as described below.

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Table 1: Climate Action Plan Work Plan

| Measure | | Applicability | 2020 GHG Reduction (MTCO ₂ e) | Lead Department | Supporting Departments & Agencies | Time Frame | Total Staff Time | Incremental CAP Costs* (Not Yet Contracted or Budgeted) |
|---------|--|----------------------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| EN1 | Connect homeowners to financing and resources for retrofits. | Encourage - existing residential | -3,200 | Development Services | None | Immediate (2014) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Although residential retrofits often pay for themselves with reduced energy bills, few residents have the extra money necessary to pay upfront costs. This measure identifies actions to assist Butte County homeowners to secure financing, rebates, and other resources to retrofit their homes. |
| EN2 | Promote residential appliance | Encourage - existing residential | -1,560 | Development Services | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote | None. More efficient appliances require less fuel |

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| upgrades. | | | | | | program. | for successful operation, saving residents money and lowering emissions across the county. | |
| EN3 | Connect low-income homeowners to financing and resources for retrofits. | Encourage - existing residential | -300 | Development Services | None | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. By assisting with low-income household retrofits, the County can simultaneously reduce emissions and increase low-income families' capacity to maintain safe and comfortable households despite volatile energy prices and increasing |

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| | | | | | | | | temperatures. |
| EN4 | Support retrofits in existing nonresidential uses with an emphasis on manufacturing facilities. | Encourage - existing nonresidential | -2,130 | Development Services | None | Immediate (2014) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. This measure seeks to increase long-term profitability and viability of businesses, with an emphasis on the manufacturing sector, by facilitating energy efficiency retrofit financing and rebate opportunities. |
| EN5 | Work with utility providers to encourage nonresidential appliance upgrades. | Encourage - existing nonresidential | -620 | Development Services | None | Immediate (2014) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Efficient appliances require less fuel for successful operation, saving businesses money and lowering |

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| | | | | | | | emissions across the county. | |
| EN6 | Promote energy-efficiency programs and streamline on-site solar PV installations for agricultural and food processing facilities to improve operations and profitability. | Encourage & incentivize - nonresidential | -70,770 | Development Services | None | Immediate (2014) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Development cost of approximately \$200,000 to be paid for by SGC Grant if awarded (see also Measure EN11) This measure also provides the opportunity for businesses and County staff to work with PG&E to develop locally tailored, cost-effective energy reduction actions that meet the needs of Butte County industries |

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| EN7 | Encourage new nonresidential buildings to meet and exceed CALGreen standards for energy efficiency, water conservation, and passive design. | Encourage - new nonresidential | -20 | Development Services | None | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. CALGreen standards are encouraged only. Although there is an upfront cost to design and build more energy and water-efficient buildings, such efforts result in lower operating costs for the life of the structure. |
| EN8 | Expand distributed generation, renewable energy systems for new residential development. | Required - new residential (all new residential: solar rewiring; new residential more than 500 units: achieve zero net energy) | -1,640 | Development Services | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to expedite permit processing and promote program. | Additional cost to provide solar rewiring, and net-zero energy use for discretionary projects exceeding 500 units. County staff works with developers as |

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| | | | | | | | | master planned communities proceed through plan review, providing opportunities to require renewable energy siting. 900 new households needed to go solar to meet target. New master planned communities, such as Rio D' Oro, planned for 2,700 units, are voluntarily providing solar prewiring. |
| EN9 | Support distributed generation in | Required - new nonresidential development to | -110 | Development Services | None | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and | Additional cost in requiring new discretionary |

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| | new nonresidential development to reduce on-site energy use. | prewire for solar PV | | | | promote program. | nonresidential development to prewire for solar PV systems and to maximize roof space to accommodate PV. | |
| EN10 | Encourage the voluntary installation of distributed generation, renewable energy systems throughout the county. | Encourage - existing residential and nonresidential | -9,070 | Development Services | None | Immediate (2014) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. May have positive impact on cost of fees and processing time. |
| EN11 | Adopt a solar PV energy overlay zone. | Incentivize - new nonresidential | Supportive (see Measure EN6) | Development Services | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to manage consultant and project. | Development cost of approximately \$200,000 to be paid for by SGC Grant if awarded. This measure will support energy |

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| | | | | | | | | users in the manufacturing and agricultural processing sectors most likely to benefit from on-site solar. The measure also supports General Plan Policy COS A3.1, which directs the County to prepare a study identifying possible sites for the production of energy using local renewable resources. |
| F1 | Expand the use of alternative and clean-fuel vehicles. | Required new nonresidential (provide electric vehicle rewiring or conduit) | -570 | Development Services | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | Additional cost in providing electrical vehicle rewiring for discretionary projects. |

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| F2 | Coordinate with the Butte County Air Quality Management District to adopt construction mitigation requirements for all construction projects. | Required – construction operations (reduce construction idling to 3 minutes) | -500 | Development Services | Butte County Air Quality Management District | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | Operating procedures can reduce engine running time without affecting productivity. Other measures would help reduce fuel use although initial capital outlays for new equipment can be substantial. |
| F3 | Implement programs and update standards for new residential development to support fuel efficiency in autos and lawn and garden equipment. | Required - new and existing residential (new residential: provide electric vehicle outlets on external walls or garages) | -660 | Development Services | Butte County Air Quality Management District | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | Additional cost in providing electric vehicle outlets on walls or garages for discretionary projects. |

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| T1 | Create a transportation demand management program for businesses throughout Butte County composed of requirements for employers with more than 50 employees (large employers) and voluntary actions for smaller employers. | Encourage - encourage all large employers to implement a transportation demand management (TDM) program to reduce drive-alone trips and support ridesharing, public transit, walking, and bicycling | -1,840 | Development Services | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program develop guidelines. | None. Staff recommends amending this program to provide guidelines to local businesses to promote Transportation Demand Management Programs instead of requiring them. |
| AG1 | Implement best practices in rice farming. | Encourage – agricultural operations | Supportive | Agriculture Commissioner | Butte County Air Quality Management District | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is currently developing an emissions offset protocol for rice. Once adopted, |

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| | | | | | | | the protocol would provide a method for farmers to verify and sell offset credits for implementing best practices that reduce emissions. Such a program could provide additional revenue for rice farmers. | |
| AG2 | Reduce the amount of burned agricultural residue. | Encourage - agricultural operations | -790 | Agriculture Commissioner | Butte County Air Quality Management District | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Since 2006, a reduction has already occurred based on changes in farming practices and crop types (e.g., increased chipping). This |

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| | | | | | | | measure provides an opportunity to account for the associated GHG reductions from these changes, which are also anticipated to continue in future years. | |
| AG3 | Optimize the efficiency of water irrigation practices through clean, alternative irrigation energy sources. | Encourage – agricultural operations | -7,070 | Agriculture Commissioner | Water & Resources Conservation Department, Western Canal District, Butte County Air Quality Management District, Farm Bureau | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. This measure accounts for pumps that have been converted since 2006, which is also anticipated to continue in future years as solar pumps become more affordable and practical. |

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| AG4 | Improve maintenance of agricultural vehicles to reduce fuel use. | Encourage – agricultural operations | -1,860 | Agriculture Commissioner | Butte County Air Quality Management District | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. This measure promotes and supports fuel efficiency in farm equipment resulting in both cost savings and GHG reductions. |
| AG5 | Implement best practices in fertilizer and pesticide use. | Encourage – agricultural operations | -4,660 | Agriculture Commissioner | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Since 2006, a reduction has already occurred in this subsector based on changes in farming practices. This measure provides the opportunity to account for the associated GHG reductions from these changes, which are also |

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| | | | | | | | anticipated to increase in future years. | |
| AG6 | Develop a local carbon sequestration or offset program on agricultural and timber land. | Encourage – agricultural operations | Supportive | Agriculture Commissioner | Butte County Air Quality Management District | Long-Term (by 2020) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. CARB has adopted an offset protocol for livestock projects and is currently developing an offset protocol for rice cultivation. Offset protocols provide a method for farmers to sell verified offset credits for approved practices that reduce emissions. |
| W1 | Sustain a maximum practical | Other - government operations | -6,160 | Public Works | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and | None. This measure takes advantage of |

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| methane capture rate at the Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility. | (continue existing operational practices) | | | | | promote program. | the GHG reductions related to the Landfill Methane Rule (AB 32). The collection system must be expanded as needed to comply with the provisions of the Landfill Methane Rule (AB 32). | |
| W2 | Adopt a countywide diversion rate target of 75%, consistent with state policy. | Other - government operations (attain 75% countywide waste diversion through waste franchise agreements and encourage waste diversion) | -6,010 | Public Works | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to promote and support program. | None. The diversion rate is consistent with AB 341, which sets a statewide policy target of a 75 percent diversion rate by 2013. This measure adopts this target at the county level and recommends |

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| | | | | | | | | strategies to achieve it. |
| GO1 | Improve energy monitoring and tracking. | Other - government operations (evaluate and track energy use and costs to prioritize improvements) | Supportive | General Services | None | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | Costs will be determined on a project by project basis and as funding allows. A more detailed accounting describing where energy is used can enable the County to make better energy efficiency retrofit decisions. |
| GO2 | Improve operations with energy-efficient equipment. | Other - government operations (encourage use of ENERGY STAR products and use energy-efficient | -260 | General Services | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | Costs will be determined on a project by project basis and as funding allows. Newer, more |

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| | equipment, as feasible) | | | | | | energy-efficient appliances and equipment can reduce maintenance costs and operate more efficiently than older models. | |
| GO3 | Improve heating and cooling functions of County buildings. | Other - government operations (identify heating and cooling needs; adopt a policy to improve HVAC systems, as feasible) | Supportive | General Services | None | Long-Term (by 2020) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Relates to existing county policy and work to upgrade facilities. |
| GO4 | Implement fiscal and budgeting practices that improve energy efficiency. | Other - government operations (propose and continue energy-efficient improvements to maximize state | Supportive | General Services | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. The energy saved from conservation and efficiency efforts may result in savings on electricity |

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| | | and federal funding participation | | | | | | and natural gas bills. |
| GO5 | Implement habitability measures that cut costs. | Other - government operations (adopt a policy that roof maintenance shall include use of energy-efficient and cool roof materials) | Supportive | General Services | None | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | Costs will be determined on a project by project basis and as funding allows. Facility audits provide the County with information to invest in high-yield energy efficiency projects, building on a 2011 energy audit of the government center campus that identified 19 actions with energy savings. |
| GO6 | Reduce fuel use | Other - | -450 | Public Works | None | Mid-Term | Use existing staff | None. This |

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| in the County fleet. | government operations (continue upgrades to fleet and compliance with CARB standards) | | | | (by 2018) | and budget to support and promote program. | measure takes advantage of the GHG reductions related to the State mandated CARB replacement standards that are already required. | |
| GO7 | Reduce emissions from employee commutes by encouraging alternative travel options and supporting the use of clean, alternative fuels. | Other - government operations (encourage employee participation in commuter programs) | Supportive | Development Services, Human Resources | Butte County Association of Governments, Butte County Air Quality Management District | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Actions directed are not mandatory. Subsidized bus passes would involve county funds. Measure may help procure grant funding. |
| GO8 | Construct new buildings to CALGreen Tier 1 standards. | Other - government operations (require new County facilities) | -10 | General Services | None | Immediate (2014) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote | Costs will be determined on a project by project basis and as funding |

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| | exceeding 3,000 sq. ft. to meet CALGreen Tier 1 energy efficiency standards) | | | | | program. | allows. New County buildings have the potential to set an example for the community while saving energy for the life of the structure. | |
| GO9 | Reduce methane emissions from the Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility. | Other - government operations (sustain 90% landfill methane capture) | -9,570 | Public Works | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. According to Public Works landfill gas consultant SCS Engineers demonstrates that systems can achieve a 90-95 % capture, and an 80 to 90 % capture is potentially achievable. A maximum practical capture |

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| | | | | | | | of 90 percent would be an appropriate goal. | |
| GO10 | Participate in a leadership or recognition program to promote and support County sustainability initiatives. | Other - government operations (seek funding support and no- cost resources) | Supportive | General Services | None | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Public information campaigns and awards for County accomplishments can raise community awareness of and prompt action to support sustainability. |
| A1 | Adapt to increasing wildfire frequency and severity. | Other - government operations (code updates and stakeholder engagement) | Supportive | Butte County Fire | Cal OES, Administration, Development Services, fire safe councils, university partners | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program, with the exception of the additional consultant work. | Further consultant work would approximately be \$27,000 based upon 270 staff hours @ 100/hour |

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| A2 | Prepare for changing precipitation patterns and reduced water supply. | Other - government operations (agency and stakeholder engagement) | Supportive | Water & Resources Conservation Department | Administration, Agriculture Commissioner, Western Canal District, Butte County UC Cooperative Extension | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Through education, efficiency, and conservation, this adaptation measure helps Butte County prepare for a future where water may be less plentiful and more expensive. |
| A3 | Anticipate increases in flooding frequency and severity. | Other - government operations (code updates, outreach, and long-term revisions to evacuation plans) | Supportive | Administration, Public Works | City of Oroville, Butte County Sheriff's Office, Development Services, DWR | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program, with the exception of the additional consultant work. | Further consultant work would approximately be \$35,000 based upon 350 staff hours @ 100/hour. |
| A4 | Prepare and quickly respond to more frequent and intense of extreme heat | Other - government operations (coordination, capital improvements, | Supportive | Administration, Development Services | Butte County Air Quality Management District, General Services, Public Health | Near-Term (by 2016) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Focuses on promoting equipment rebates that are already available and connecting |

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| events. | and stakeholder engagement) | | | Department, Public Works Department | | | farmers to existing resources. | |
| R1 | Enhance the economic viability of local agriculture in a changing climate. | Other - government operations (education and stakeholder engagement) | Supportive | Agriculture Commissioner | Butte County Air Quality Management District, Butte County Farm Bureau, Butte County UC Cooperative Extension, Butte County Rice Growers Association, chambers of commerce, Chico State, Department of Employment and Social Services, local farmers markets, 4H associations | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Provides resources to the agricultural community to make informed decisions about the future. |

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| R2 | Support resilient ecosystems. | Other - government operations (agency coordination) | Supportive | Development Services | Butte County Association of Governments | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. |
| R3 | Sustain a thriving economy that capitalizes on changing conditions. | Other - government operations (agency coordination, plan updates) | Supportive | Development Services, Administration | Agriculture Commissioner, Butte County Farm Bureau, Butte County UC Cooperative Extension, Butte County Rice Growers Association, Butte College, CSU Chico, chambers of commerce, Employment and Social Services Department, UC Cooperative Extensions | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. |

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| GR1 | Account for climate change effects in existing government operations. | Other - government operations (plan development) | Supportive | Administration, Development Services | Agriculture Commissioner, Butte County Fire, Cal OES, Public Works, Public Health, Water & Resource Conservation | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Increases government's ability to adapt and be resilient to climate change effects. |
| GR2 | Work with partners to prepare for climate change. | Other - government operations (agency coordination, plan development) | Supportive | Administration | Agriculture Commissioner, Butte County Fire, Development Services, Cal OES, Public Works, Public Health, Water & Resource Conservation | Mid-Term (by 2018) | Use existing staff and budget to support and promote program. | None. Increases government's ability to adapt and be resilient to climate change effects. |

*Tasks not yet authorized by the Board, which would require Board authorization through new contracts or future budget cycles.