

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR ALBANY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The City of Albany has prepared an Initial Study pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines (Public Resources Code, Division 13 and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3) evaluating the potential environmental impacts of the Albany Climate Action Plan (CAP). The City proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (“MND”) because, although the CAP could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made. This MND and the Initial Study describe the reasons that this project will not have a significant effect on the environment with mitigation incorporated and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an environmental impact report under CEQA.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

Comments on the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration must be submitted in writing prior to the close of the public comment period. From **February 12 to March 15, 2010**, the Draft CAP, the Mitigated Negative Declaration and its Initial Study of environmental effects are available for public review on the web at <http://www.albanyca.org> and during normal office hours at the City of Albany Planning Division, located at 1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany 94706. Written comments on the Initial Study and proposed mitigated Negative Declaration should be submitted prior to 5:00 pm on March 15, 2010 to:

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The Albany Sustainability Committee held duly noticed public meetings concerning the CAP on September 17 and December 17, 2008; March 18, April 15, June 15, and September 16, 2009; and January 20 and February 17, 2010. The Planning Commission considered the CAP at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 24, 2009. The City Council considered the CAP at a duly noticed study session on January 4, 2010. In addition the City held a publicly noticed Climate Action Community Forum on May 17, 2009. The Climate Action Plan has been available on the City’s website and at City Hall for a public review period beginning November 6, 2009. **The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on the CAP and MND on March 9, 2010. The City Council will hold a public hearing on the CAP and MND on March 15, 2010.**

Project Description: The proposed project is the adoption of a policy document intended to provide policy direction and identify actions the City and the community can take to significantly reduce the generation of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) consistent with California Assembly Bill (AB) 32 and Executive Order S-3-05. The purpose of the plan is to guide the development, enhancement, and ultimately the implementation of actions and strategies that reduce Albany’s greenhouse gas emissions. The plan consists of five chapters and five appendices that:

- ▶ Summarize climate change, outline actions by the State and City to reduce emissions, and describe how Albany residents and business owners can participate in GHG reduction efforts;
- ▶ Describe the role public participation played in the formation of the CAP, State regulations governing climate action planning, and regional climate change initiatives and programs;

- ▶ Characterize Albany’s current GHG emissions, indicate the projected community-wide emissions in 2020 and 2050, and note the action by City Council to establish a reduction target;
- ▶ Propose strategies and measures the City can take to achieve its emissions reduction target, and analyze the estimated cost of the proposed measures; and
- ▶ Discuss the means by which the City will monitor the Plan’s implementation, verify achievements; and fund the selected measures.

The Albany CAP was developed under the premise that local governments and the communities they represent can address the main sources of the emissions that cause global warming: the energy consumed in buildings and for transportation and the solid waste sent to landfills.

Project Sponsor & Lead Agency: City of Albany

Project Location: Citywide