City Council Update on Climate Adaptation and Energy Projects

City Council Priority Project 9c. FY2025-26: Develop a climate resiliency pipeline of projects to cohesively synthesize citywide effort and leverage potential funding sources

May 2025

Intended Outcomes

Provide context and purpose of developing a Climate Resiliency Pipeline

Share the draft Climate Resiliency Pipeline that cohesively demonstrates how the City is helping to build a resilient community in the face of climate change

Seek feedback from Council

Currently…

- Credit where credit is due: the City is doing **a lot** to prepare for our future needs

But!

- We aren't always great at telling our story
- We can be "wonky"
- Sometimes, we operate in silos

What is this “Climate Resiliency Pipeline” and why?

- **What: Climate Resiliency Pipeline –**
  - Set of projects, plans, and programs that cohesively demonstrates how the City is helping to build a resilient community in the face of climate change
  - Is relatable
  - Is impactful
- **Why:**
  - Identifies opportunities and gaps
  - Tool for prioritization
  - Helps gauge if our efforts will “meet the mark”
  - Resource to leverage impact and partnerships
  - RESOURCES FOLLOW COHESION!

A ROBUST PIPELINE IS

1. Sufficient
Together, the deals and projects in the pipeline meaningfully move the community toward the shared priority.

2. Efficient
The deals in the pipeline are doable, that is, they can realistically be completed in a reasonable time frame with a reasonable amount of effort

3. Impactful
Completing the deals and projects in the pipeline will make a significant difference for the community.

Center for Community Investment January 2021

What could a resilient future look like?

Consider this imaginary example…

Arcata Climate Resiliency Pipeline

Ensures that Arcata can absorb climate shocks while preserving a healthy quality of life

Quality of Life Goal	Description and Aligned Project Types	Current and Recently Completed Projects, Plans, Programs (Recently Completed, Current)	Planned/Upcoming Projects, Plans, Programs
The community and its assets are protected from local climate risks, while public access and open space is preserved	*Safeguard people and communities from climate pressures through protection from and prevention of risk.* *Examples include: flood protection, stormwater management, access to clean water and sanitation, open space multi-benefit projects*	1. Arcata Wastewater Treatment Facility Coastal Hazards Adaptation and Implementation Plan 2. Arcata Wastewater Treatment Facility Levee Project 3. Arcata Local Coastal Plan Update 4. Arcata Sea level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Adaptation Plan 5. Jacoby Creek Watershed-level and Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning 6. Continued replacement and rehabilitation of old City water and sewer infrastructures	1. Strategic property acquisition for sea level rise adaptation 2. Janes Creek and Jolly Giant Creek Restoration and Stormwater Management Projects

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The community is readily able to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters	*Prepare communities to respond to, and recover from climate-related disasters with equity and care.* *Examples Include: community resilience hubs, neighborhood mobilization, hazard planning*	1. Arcata Community Center designated as an evacuation center and Red Cross location 2. 2022 Community Emergency Response Team training provided for all City staff 3. Tank 1C Water Storage Project 4. Update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan in partnership with the County Office of Emergency Services 5. Keep the City of Arcata Emergency Operations Plan up to date	1. Tsunami evacuation community outreach 2. Tabletop exercises for disaster preparedness 3. Develop the Valley West Community Center 4. Prepare and implement City Specific Emergency Response Safety Assessment program 5. Mitigate for impacts of fire-related air quality hazards

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The community has access to local, reliable, low- or no-carbon energy	*Develop energy-resilient infrastructure, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from entering the atmosphere to minimize Arcata's impact on global climate change, and protect indoor and outdoor air quality* *Examples include: building electrification, rooftop solar, battery back-up*	1. City facilities enrolled in Repower+ for all electric accounts 2. Arcata Community Center Battery Energy Storage System 3. Arcata Community Center Rooftop Solar 4. City Hall Battery Energy Storage System 5. Secure cost-effective organics recycling franchise agreement and rates	<u>Climate Action Plan Implementation:</u> 1. Support development of Regional Climate Committee 2. Reduce existing residential building natural gas consumption by 4% by 2030 3. Reduce existing non-residential building and natural gas consumption by 5% by 2030 4. Decarbonize 95% of new residential building construction by 2027 5. Decarbonize 95% of new nonresidential building construction by 2027 6. Electrify or otherwise decarbonize 12% of small off-road engines/equipment by 2030 7. Electrify or otherwise decarbonize 50% municipal fleet by 2030 8. Develop City-wide facility decarb plan and decarbonize 30% of facilities by 2030

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As we transition to a resilient community, affordability is at the forefront	*Reduce energy, utility, and transportation costs to ease climate-related financial burdens. Connect to opportunities for jobs and revenue generating opportunities for community groups.* *Examples include: energy efficiency, rooftop solar, electric vehicles, power purchase agreements, 'green' workforce development*	1. Support Humboldt Waste Management Authority in development of in-County organics processing facility 2. Complete Zoning Code updates consistent with 2045 General Plan and Gateway Area Plan 3. LED retrofits in City facilities 4. Steel waterline replacement project 5. Implement Countywide Edible Food Recovery Program 6. Bayside Park Farm – incubator for agricultural producers and community supported ag	1. Develop building electrification incentives (fund to support residential decarbonization) 2. Implement replacement of water meters throughout the City with remote-read smart meters 3. Support RCEA in implementation of Northern Rural Energy Network programs 4. Support RCEA in workforce development programs <u>Climate Action Plan Implementation:</u> 1. Support ZEV car share companies coming to the region to develop an accessible ZEV network 2. Reduce per capita potable water consumption by 15% by 2030 3. Partner with RCEA to provide EV monthly bill discount program and explore methods for charging different rates for different user groups

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Every community member has access to open space and a variety of low- or no-carbon transportation options	*Ensure access to community-level resources.* *Examples Include: public transit, active transportation, EV charging infrastructure, community gardens, farms, parks, trails*	1. Arcata EV Charging Stations located at Arcata Community Center, Carlson Park, and F Street 2. E-bike vouchers for Arcata Residents in partnership with Redwood Coast Energy Authority 3. Arcata Community Forest Voluntary Carbon Offset Program 4. Implement and maintain active transportation Infostructure projects such as – Humboldt Bay Trail North, Arcata Rail with Trail Connectivity Project, Arcata Annie and Mary Trail, Bicycle Blvds, Safe Routes to School projects, Complete Street Projects. 5. Complete South Arcata Multi-Modal Safety Improvements Plan 6. Isaackson Phase II sidewalk project 7. Partner with Humboldt Transit Authority to improve ridership and routes supporting a regional transit network 8. Implement Local Road Safety Plan to improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in the City	1. Advance the Reconnect Arcata Project 2. Continue to plan for annual sidewalk improvement projects <u>Climate Action Plan Implementation</u> 1. Implement programs to increase the active transportation mode share from 9% to 12% by 2030 2. Expand public transit network to increase public transit mode share from 2% to 20% by 2030 3. Develop Transportation Demand Management Plan for City Employees

Questions for consideration…

- How could this be useful to Council?
- How might we share and co-create our vision with the community?
- Is there interest in developing a longer time horizon (say, 2050)?
- How might we reflect partnerships and more regional efforts?
- Do these categories make sense?
- In your perspective, how will we know if we have “met the mark”?
- What could accountability to our community look like?
- Does this overall strategy resonate?

Thank you!