



CITY OF DEL MAR

City of Del Mar Climate Action Plan Progress Report

Calendar Years 2020 & 2021

During calendar years 2020 and 2021, the City of Del Mar faced historical financial challenges due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The City had to cut its budget by nearly 40%, lay off part-time and permanent staff, and implement a mandatory across-the-board furlough for all other employees. The budget cuts resulted in the elimination of the City's funding for a CivicSpark fellow, which in prior years the City relied on to implement many of its Climate Action Plan (CAP) initiatives.

Given the significance of the financial crisis, the City Council directed staff to focus on maintaining essential services (e.g., public safety, public works, etc.), and therefore, implementation of the City's CAP and other planned sustainability initiatives was deferred with the following notable exceptions:

- On May 1, 2021, the Clean Energy Alliance (CEA) began providing energy services, offering Del Mar's residents, businesses, and municipal facilities cleaner energy (with a base energy product offering of 50% renewables, 75% carbon-free), competitive rates, local programs, and local control. Participation in CEA helps the City of Del Mar implement its Climate Action Plan by reducing the City's greenhouse gas emissions from electricity and natural gas consumption (which accounts for approximately 35% of Del Mar's total GHG emissions).
- On July 12, 2021, the City Council took bold action and enrolled the City's municipal electric service accounts into CEA's Green Impact, 100% renewable energy product offering to further reduce the City's GHG emissions.
- During 2020-2021, staff spent a significant time preparing for the implementation of Senate Bill 1383, Short-Lived Climate Pollutants, which will require all waste generators in the City to recycle their organic waste, including food waste. These efforts include:
 - Completed a competitive procurement process for the City's next solid waste franchise agreement that will include new organics recycling services and edible food recovery requirements;
 - Updated the City's municipal code by ordinance to enforce the requirements of SB 1383;
 - Established a commercial food scrap pilot program through a collaborative partnership between the City, Waste Management and The Compost Group; and
 - Explored a residential food scrap pilot program with Food 2 Soil.
- The City's [CAP Implementation Plan](#), adopted in October 2019, recommends 1) annual CAP progress reports and 2) official CAP monitoring reports every two years (as City resources allow) in alignment with SANDAG's GHG inventory updates (SANDAG's next update with 2020 data won't be complete until April 2022).
 - The City's last [CAP monitoring report](#) was published in July 2020.
 - The City's next monitoring report would be due in summer 2020 (as City resources allow and if directed by City Council).

For more information about the City's CAP and past progress reports, visit:

<https://www.delmar.ca.us/699/Climate-Action-Plan>