



City of Manteca Planning Commission **AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: October 16, 2025

PROJECT NAME: Climate Action Plan Update

PROJECT LOCATION: Citywide

APPLICATION NUMBERS: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt a resolution recommending City Council make the necessary findings and adopt a Tiered Initial Study (SCH #2025071350) and Negative Declaration prepared for the Manteca Climate Action Plan Update; and
2. Adopt a resolution recommending City Council approve and adopt the City of Manteca Climate Action Plan Update.

PROJECT INFORMATION	
APPLICANT	City of Manteca
PROPERTY OWNER	N/A
General Plan Designation	Citywide
Zoning:	Citywide
Existing Use:	N/A
Proposed Use:	N/A
Parcel Size	N/A
Adjacent Uses:	N/A

APPLICABLE CODES AND PROCEDURES

2043 Manteca General Plan
CA Assembly Bill (AB) 32
CA Senate Bill (SB) 32
CA Executive Order (EO) B-55-18

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

There is no “project” per se. The request is to update and adopt the Climate Action Plan (CAP), which is a policy-level document and is not related to any specific proposed development.

On October 15, 2013, the Manteca City Council approved and adopted the Air Quality Element Update and Climate Action Plan in response to the passing of Assembly Bill AB32. The intent of this plan is to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions in both private and public sector development. Based on data from the 2010 Census, Manteca’s estimated

population in 2013 was approximately 71,000. Data from a 2025 Press Release from the California Department of Finance estimated a 32% population increase from the 2013 count, putting Manteca's population at or above 94,000. The rapid growth of the City combined with the State of California's mandate in AB 1279 for carbon neutrality by 2045 facilitated the City of Manteca initiating a Climate Action Plan Update.

California has affirmed the need for action to reduce Statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through the adoption of multiple executive orders under Governors Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jerry Brown, and Gavin Newsom, as well as legislative actions including Assembly Bill (AB) 32, Senate Bill (SB) 32, and Executive Order (EO) B-55-18. Both AB 32 and SB 32 establish Statewide GHG reduction goals, while EO B-55-18 commits to carbon neutrality. The majority of the reductions mandated by AB 32 and SB 32 would be accomplished through Statewide programs; however, implementation of local measures to reduce GHG emissions will likely be needed to achieve the Statewide reductions mandated by AB 32, SB 32, and EO B-55-18. The City of Manteca's efforts regarding GHG emissions reductions are intended to work in concert with the efforts being undertaken on a Statewide level. Thus, the City of Manteca has prepared an update to their existing Climate Action Plan (CAP), implementation of which would establish consistency between the City of Manteca's policies and Statewide reduction requirements.

On October 15, 2013, the Manteca City Council approved and adopted the Air Quality Element Update and Climate Action Plan in response to the passing of Assembly Bill AB32. The intent of this plan is to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions in both private and public sector development. Manteca 2043 General Plan Implementation Measure RC-4a states:

"Continue to assess and monitor performance of greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts, including progress toward meeting longer-term GHG emissions reduction goals for 2035 and 2050. Report on the City's progress annually, and schedule public hearings at the Planning Commission and City Council. The Climate Action Plan shall be updated by 2025 and subsequently reviewed every 5 years and updated as necessary to be consistent with State-adopted GHG reduction targets, including revisions to GHG reduction measures to ensure effective implementation."

The update to the Climate Action Plan is a direct implementation of the General Plan and is critical in meeting the requirements spelled out in this Implementation Measure, and in determining specific quantifiable actions for the City to help achieve the statewide goal of carbon neutrality by 2045.

PROJECT LOCATION

Citywide, including City Limits, Sphere of Influence and greater Planning Area.

PROJECT SITE EXISTING CONDITIONS

The CAP Update is a policy document that will be in effect citywide, including City Limits, Sphere of Influence and greater Planning Area. It will be applicable to all future entitlement requests.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The CAP Update process began with the appointment by the City Council of a citizen advisory committee. On May 16, 2023, the five member Council each appointed a member of the community from their respective district. Two alternates were later appointed to mitigate potential quorum issues. The first Climate Action Plan Advisory Committee (CAPAC) meeting occurred on September 11, 2023. Meetings were scheduled monthly on a semi-regular basis as needed through to the end of the CAP update process.

COMMUNITY INTERACTION AND DATA COLLECTION

From the beginning of this process, one of the hopes and intents for the CAP Update was to create a more equitable document that justly accounts for the rapidly changing demographics of the City. For decades, the proximity of Manteca to the Bay Area has made this city a bedroom community for residents making the commute over the Altamont Pass. As real estate prices in the Bay Area have risen dramatically, many have been priced out of home ownership in that area, resulting in a massive increase in transplant homeowners in Manteca and the surrounding region. With those transplants comes a change in perspectives, ideologies, and sensibilities. The increase in population from outside the Valley has changed local income levels, education levels and expectations of their new hometown government.

Census data from 2000 shows that 64.06% of Manteca residents identify as “white”. Ten years later in 2010, that number dropped to 46.91%, and then in 2020, the number was down to 34.61%. Contrast that with those who identify as “Hispanic or Latino,” and you see a marked change in the opposite direction. In 2000, data shows 25.1% Hispanic/Latino population in Manteca. In 2010, it rose to 37.73% and in 2020, it rose again to 40.59%. In that same 20 year time span, the Black/African American population rose from 2.71% to 4.16%, and the Asian population (includes South Asians from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and others), rose from 3.37% to 13.92%.

The breadth of demographic change in the City necessitated a more intentional effort toward equity. With this in mind, and realizing our tight timeline, the Climate Action Plan Advisory Committee (CAPAC) determined at its April 22, 2024 meeting to concentrate its outreach efforts in five specific directions:

- Sierra Club
- Rotary/Kiwanis
- Healthy Neighborhoods Coalition
- Churches
- Apartment Complexes

Community Workshop

An interactive community workshop was scheduled for Monday, June 3, 2024 at the City Transit Center. Physical and email invitations were sent by the CAPAC members to contacts citywide in each of the five target categories. The meeting was conducted from 6pm to 8pm, and consisted of a brief introduction of the CAP and update process by the contracted Consultant, followed by roundtable discussions on the major emissions sectors within the City and those that would lend to potential GHG Reduction Measures. The tables covered the following topics:

- Energy
- Solid Waste
- Transportation and Land Use
- Water Treatment

Online survey

As the CAPAC discussed methods for gaining the most feedback as possible within the allotted timetable, it was determined that a simple online survey would be an effective data gathering tool. An 11-question survey was created and translated into Manteca's three most prominent languages: English, Spanish and Punjabi (Gurmukhi). Graphics were created to promote the survey, with a QR code to make access as simple as possible. These graphics were physically posted around the City in restaurants, grocery stores, apartment complexes and places of worship. The local Rotary Club was given a presentation on the CAP update and invited to participate in the survey. The Manteca Chamber of Commerce agreed to circulate the survey invitations to its mailing base. Manteca Unified School District was especially generous, as they sent the survey invitations in all three languages to approximately 8,000 homes.



Table 1: CAP Survey QR Graphics

SUSTAINABILITY CHECKLIST

One of the most important things to come from the Climate Action Plan update is the creation of a Sustainability Checklist. In the past, when an entitlement application or improvement

project was proposed within the City, it was the job City Staff and any contracted environmental consultants to assess the project for compliance with Climate Action Plan. While this will still be an important part of the project review process, as pointed out in Section 1.1 of the update, entitlement applications will also now be required to include a completed Sustainability Checklist, in which the applicant must demonstrate how the proposed project complies with the Climate Action Plan. Specifically, the applicant must demonstrate which Implementation Measures and Action Items their project complies with and precisely how. This provides the City with quantifiable GHG reduction data and helps us further refine our goals and Implementation Measures in future iterations of the CAP.

GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE

The CAP Update is a policy-level document that does not propose direct development or other physical changes within the City of Manteca. While the proposed measures of the CAP Update may encourage various development and improvements that may require construction activities such as improvements to transportation infrastructure, any emissions and impacts associated with future activities would be subject to subsequent environmental review and would be required to comply with the General Plan and relevant federal, State, and local air quality goals and plans.

The proposed CAP Update is consistent with the following General Plan Goals and Policies:

Implementation Measure RC-4a: Continue to assess and monitor performance of greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts, including progress toward meeting longer-term GHG emissions reduction goals for 2035 and 2050. Report on the City's progress annually, and schedule public hearings at the Planning Commission and City Council. The Climate Action Plan shall be updated by 2025 and subsequently reviewed every 5 years and updated as necessary to be consistent with State-adopted GHG reduction targets, including revisions to GHG reduction measures to ensure effective implementation.

Analysis: The Climate Action Plan Update document serves to fulfill the 2025 deadline detailed in this measure. The previous General Plan called for the creation of the Climate Action Plan, but did not call for regular review and updating. This new and much more in-depth document sets a new standard for accountability and highlights the requirement for regular five-year review and update as needed.

Policy RC-4.3: Maintain an updated Climate Action Plan that addresses State-adopted GHG reduction goals and provides effective measures to meet GHG targets.

Analysis: GHG reduction has been the central topic of conversation and core motivation for the CAP Update process. Chapter 6 of the CAP document, "Emission Reduction Measures," details the proposed course of action for the next phase of the City's to pathway to California's goal carbon neutrality by 2045.

Table 13. CAP Goals and Measures	
GOALS	MEASURES
Transportation (TR)	
Promote Alternative Transportation	TR.3: Increase Use of Alternative Transportation TR.4: Promote Alternative Transportation Through Updated Parking Standards
Implement Electric Vehicle Infrastructure	TR.5: Optimize City Fleet TR.6: Support Electric Vehicle Adoption, Charging Infrastructure, and Alternative Fuels.
Work to Increase Active Mobility	TR.1: Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvement TR.9: Safe Routes to School
Reduce Single Occupant Vehicle Use and Emissions	TR.2: Congestion Management TR.7: Establish a Transportation Management Association TR.8: Mobile and Area Source Emissions Reductions
Land Use (LU)	
Encourage Sustainable Growth	LU.1: Encourage Adaptive Reuse LU.2: Comply with State Affordable Housing Requirements LU.3: Sustainable Growth of New Development LU.4: Urban Tree Management Plan
Energy and Building Design (EG)	
Expand Renewable Energy	EG.1: Renewable Energy Production Plan EG.3: Renewable Energy Requirement for Private Development EG.4: Participate in Energy Programs
Increase Lighting Efficiency	EG.8: Improve Lighting Efficiency
Improve Building Design	EG.2: Resource Efficiency Improvements for City Buildings EG.5: Enforce CALGreen EG.6: Energy Efficient Design EG.7: Efficient Design of City Structures
Water Conservation (WC)	
Increase Water Efficiency	WC.1: Community Wide Water Use Efficiency WC.2: Water Efficient Landscape WC.3: Sustainable Water Service
Solid Waste Management (SW)	
Increased Waste Diversion	SW.1: Expand Municipal Recycling Program SW.2: Expand Yard Waste and Other Organics Composting SW.3: Improve Waste Management Practices.

Table 2: CAP Goals and Measures

ZONING ORDINANCE CONFORMANCE

The CAP Update is a policy-level document that does not propose direct development or other physical changes within the City of Manteca. While the proposed measures of the CAP Update may encourage various development and improvements that may require construction activities such as improvements to transportation infrastructure, any emissions and impacts associated with future activities would be subject to subsequent environmental review and would be required to comply with the Zoning Ordinance and relevant federal, State, and local air quality goals and plans.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 15183.5, a Tiered Initial Study/Negative Declaration (Tiered IS/ND) was prepared for the proposed project. It was found that because this is only a policy document with no associated project or directly-related development, it will have a less-than-significant impact on the environment.

The full Tiered IS/MND can be reviewed here:

<https://www.manteca.gov/departments/development-services/planning/planning-division-documents/-folder-299>

Department and Agency Comments

In consistency with CA Government Code Section 15072, a Notice Of Intent was prepared and a draft of the CAP IS/ND was posted to the State Clearinghouse (SCH #2025071350) and City website for public review. The public review period commenced on July 31, 2025, and ended on September 2, 2025. Staff received no public comment on the CAP itself, and only one comment on the IS/ND from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. After reviewing and considering the comment received during the public review period (see Attachment 6), the City of Manteca, as the lead agency has determined that the comment is informational only, and does not present new or substantial evidence of significant environmental impacts that were not previously considered in the IS/ND. The comment does not raise any new issues or increase the severity of previously identified impacts. Additionally, no new mitigation measures or project revision are necessary to reduce any impacts to a less-than- significant level. Therefore recirculation of the IS/ND is not warranted as required under Section 15073.5. To that end, the original ND remains adequate for the project.

STAFF CONCLUSION

Based on the facts and findings presented in this staff report, Planning Staff is recommending that the City of Manteca Planning Commission make the necessary findings and adopt a resolution recommending City Council make the necessary findings and adopt a Tiered Initial Study (SCH #2025071350) and Negative Declaration prepared for the Manteca Climate Action Plan Update. Staff also recommends the Planning Commission adopt a resolution recommending City Council approve and adopt the City of Manteca Climate Action Plan Update.

Report prepared by: Toben Barnum, Associate Planner

Attachments:

1. Planning Commission Resolution
2. Exhibit A - CAP Initial Study and Negative Declaration
3. Exhibit A - 2025 Climate Action Plan Update
4. Considerations For Future Updates

Reviewed and Approved by:

Jesús R. Orozco, Development Services Deputy Director, Planning

Date

Brad Wungluck, Development Services Director

Date